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The Truth Speaks

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IBC WORLD NEWS
CH ABC
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INS Sahyadri in Manila After PASSEX With Philippine Navy **P8**

India Expands Global Energy Footprint to 40 Nations: Puri **P9**

P12 Lionel Messi Adds Hyderabad to 'GOAT' India Tour

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PM MODI IN UDUPI

PM says 'Naya Bharat' knows how to defend itself

Prime Minister Narendra Modi stresses India's resolve to uphold peace and self-defence while invoking Gita teachings during Udupi visit

KEY REFLECTIONS

- Lakhs of devotees reciting verses from all 18 chapters of the Bhagavad Gita.
- PM recalls the Pahalgam terror attack and Operation Sindoor, asserting that unlike the past, "Naya Bharat" will not remain passive in confronting threats.
- Unveils nine life resolutions, urging citizens to adopt conservation, swadeshi, yoga, natural farming, heritage preservation, and support for the underprivileged.
- Modi highlights India's "Mission Sudarshan Chakra" as a shield and weapon for peace.

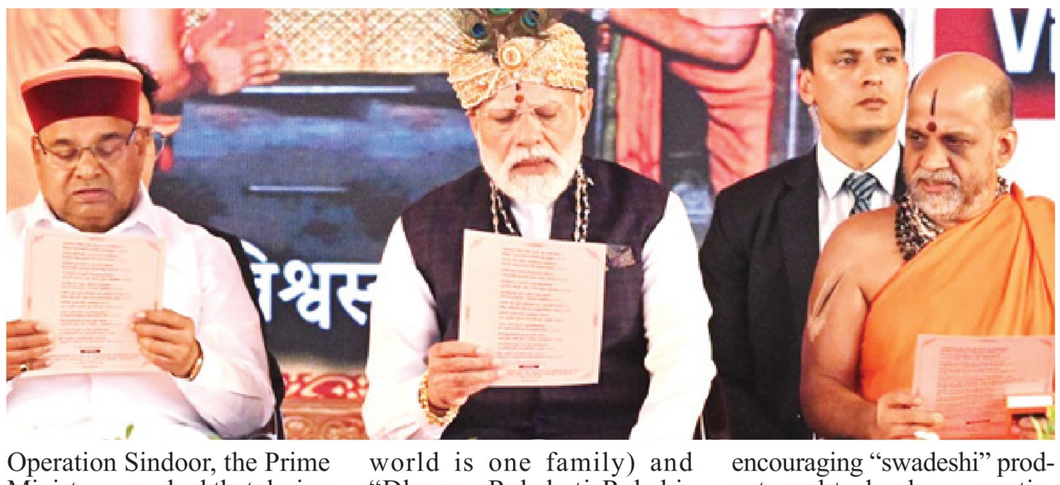
We know how to establish peace and also safeguard it. Gita teaches us to strive for peace and truth and also the need to crush perpetrators of atrocities. We believe in Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam and also recite 'Dharmo Rakshati Rakshitaha'.

—Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

UDUPI

Taking a subtle dig at Pakistan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday stated that India understands how to maintain peace and defend itself. Addressing the 'Laksha Kantha Gita Parayana' programme organized by Udupi Sri Krishna Mutt and Paryaya Putthige Mutt, he said, "Hum shanti ki sthapana bhi jaante hai aur shanti ki raksha karna bhi jaante hai" (We know how to establish peace and also safeguard it).

PM greeted by huge crowds at roadshow, recites Gita verses with lakhs of devotees at Sri Krishna Mutt. The event saw thousands of participants, including students, monks, scholars, and citizens, chanting verses from all 18 chapters of the Srimad Bhagavad Gita together. Referring to the Pahalgam terror attack and Operation Sindoor, the Prime Minister remarked that earlier, the "then Indian government" merely stood by. He added that the current government will not remain passive, asserting, "this is Naya Bharat."



PM invokes national security

Referring to the Pahalgam terror attack and the subsequent Operation Sindoor, the Prime Minister remarked that during earlier terror incidents, the "then Indian government" (Congress-led Centre) remained passive. Mr. Modi emphasized that the current government will not remain idle, declaring, "this is Naya Bharat."

He highlighted that Lord Krishna, while preaching the Bhagavad Gita on the battlefield, stated that "atyacharis" (wrongdoers) must be eliminated to uphold peace and truth. "Lord Krishna has said, 'shanti aur satya ki sthapana ke liye atyachariyon ka anthya bhi aaavashyak hai,'" Mr. Modi noted. On national security, he added that India follows the principles of "Vasudaiva Kutumbakam" (the world is one family) and "Dharmo Rakshati Rakshitaha" (dharma protects those who uphold it). "India launched Mission Sudarshan Chakra inspired by the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita," he concluded.

PM Modi in Udupi said India's "Mission Sudarshan Chakra," inspired by Lord Krishna's Sudarshan Chakra, serves as both a protective shield and a weapon against enemies.

Nine resolutions

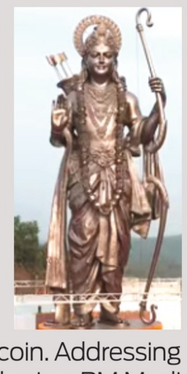
The Prime Minister urged people to embrace nine key resolutions in their lives, which encompass conserving water, promoting afforestation, supporting at least one underprivileged individual, encouraging "swadeshi" products and technology, practicing natural farming, leading a healthy lifestyle with reduced oil consumption, performing yoga daily, preserving manuscripts, and visiting a minimum of 25 culturally or historically significant sites across the country.

Visit to Sri Krishna Mutt

During his visit to the Sri Krishna Mutt, Mr. Modi inaugurated the Suvarna Tirtha Mantapa, situated in front of the Krishna sanctum, and dedicated the Kanaka Kavacha (golden cover) to the Kanakana Kindi, the sacred window through which Saint Kanakadasa is believed to have had divine darshan of Bhagwan Krishna.

PM Modi unveils 77-foot Lord Ram statue in Goa

GOA: During the 550th anniversary celebrations of Shree Samsthan Gokarn Partagali Jeevottam Math, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a 77-foot bronze statue of Lord Ram in Goa. As part of the festivities, he also opened the Ramayana Theme Park and released a commemorative postal stamp and coin. Addressing the gathering, PM Modi highlighted India's cultural revival, citing projects like the restoration of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, the renovation of Kashi Vishwanath Dham, and the expansion of Mahakal Mahalok in Ujjain.



Karnataka appeals to PM for fair MSP support

MANGALURU : Karnataka Minister Dinesh Gundurao submitted a request to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on behalf of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, urging the central government to announce fair minimum support prices (MSP) for maize and black gram. Speaking at Mangaluru Airport before Modi's visit to Udupi's Krishna Mutt, Gundurao highlighted the severe distress faced by farmers due to current low market rates. Gundurao urged immediate central intervention to ensure: MSP-based procurement by agencies like NAFED, FCI, and NCCF; direct participation of Karnataka farmers in ethanol production; increased ethanol allocation to Karnataka; restrictions on maize imports that depress prices.

'Not hurrying anything': DCM comments on Delhi visit

BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Friday addressed speculation over a potential leadership change in Karnataka, asserting that he was not seeking any post and that the Congress high command would take the final call. "I don't want anything. I am not hurrying anything. My party will make the decision. I don't want any community angle. Congress is my community, and my love is for all sections of society," Shivakumar told reporters.

The remarks come as the Congress government crosses the halfway mark of its tenure on November 20, fueling renewed discussion over the state's power-sharing formula. Shivakumar emphasized that his upcoming Delhi visit was focused on Karnataka's development concerns ahead of Parliament's Winter Session, not the leadership question. "I will definitely go to Delhi. It is our temple. Congress has a long history, and Delhi will always guide us," he said, adding that he plans to meet MPs to push stalled state projects.

Talk of a leadership transition resurfaced after the 63-year-old posted on X about the importance of keeping one's word, widely interpreted as a subtle reminder of a reported promise to make him Chief Minister for the second half of the government's five-year term. "Keeping one's word is the greatest strength in the world! Be it a judge, president or anyone else including myself, everyone has to walk the talk. Word power is World power," Shivakumar wrote.

Will definitely go to Delhi. It is our temple. Congress has a long history, and Delhi will always guide us."

—D.K. Shivakumar, Deputy Chief Minister

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge reiterated that any decision on the CM post rests with the high command, including Sonia and Rahul Gandhi, and need not be discussed publicly.

Kurubas warn Cong against removing CM

BENGALURU

The Kuruba community has warned that if Siddaramaiah is removed from the Chief Minister's post, they will vote against the Congress in the next election. At a meeting in Bengaluru, community seers and leaders urged the party not to change the CM, stressing that Siddaramaiah represents not just Kurubas but the entire AHINDA bloc. They cautioned the Congress high command that any move undermining him would damage both the party and the wider state. In contrast, Dalit organisations in Karnataka's Tumakuru protested on Friday, demanding that Karnataka Home Minister G Parameshwara be made Chief Minister if the Congress high command decides on a leadership change. The protesters said it was time for the Congress to consider a Dalit leader for the top post, amid the ongoing debate over the alleged "power-sharing" arrangement between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar.

At least 56 dead as severe floods hit SL

COLOMBO

At least 56 people have lost their lives and 21 remain missing in Sri Lanka after days of relentless rain triggered destructive floods and landslides, marking one of the country's worst weather-related disasters in recent years. The Disaster Management Centre (DMC) confirmed that 21 deaths occurred in the central tea-producing district of Badulla, where a massive landslide swept away several homes overnight.

The situation worsened on Friday as Cyclone Ditwah, which had strengthened from a deep depression into a cyclone, skimmed along the island's eastern coast, unleashing even heavier rainfall. Videos circulating online show torrents of floodwater tearing through towns and sweeping away houses, while train services across Sri Lanka have been largely suspended.

Rivers continue to swell, and authorities have urged residents in low-lying regions to evacuate to safer areas. A red-level flood alert has been issued for communities along the Kelani River, including parts of Colombo, with conditions expected to deteriorate further within the next 48 hours.

CYCLONE DITWAH

Stalin reviews preparations for Cyclone Ditwah

CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Friday reviewed the state's preparedness ahead of Cyclone 'Ditwah', which is expected to bring heavy rainfall to southern and Cauvery delta districts between November 29 and 30. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a red alert for these regions, prompting the state government to activate emergency protocols. Stalin held a video conference with district collectors from high-risk areas and instructed them to ensure seamless coordination in rescue and relief operations. He said senior officials have already been deployed to vulnerable districts and directed them to remain on high alert, especially in areas previously affected by cyclones and flooding. The Chief Minister also visited the State Emergency Operations Centre in Chennai to assess real-time updates. He stated that precautionary measures such as stocking essential supplies, preparing relief camps, and initiating evacuation from low-lying areas were already underway.

QUICK READ

Lakshadweep first UT to fully digitise voter enumeration forms

KAVARATTI

Lakshadweep has become the first Union Territory in India to achieve 100% distribution and digitisation of Special Intensive Revision (SIR) voter enumeration forms, the Election Commission said on Friday. The SIR exercise, launched on November 4, saw 55 Booth Level Officers conduct house-to-house visits across all ten islands, supported by 133 Booth Level Agents from various political parties. Special camps were also organised to expedite data collection and digitisation, said Electoral Registration Officer Shivam Chandra.

TMC alleges 40 SIR-linked deaths in Bengal, slams CEC

NEW DELHI

A Trinamool Congress delegation on Friday alleged that at least 40 people in West Bengal had died due to the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise, accusing Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar of having "blood on his hands." Led by Rajya Sabha MP Derek O'Brien, the 10-member team met the full Election Commission bench in New Delhi and claimed the CEC failed to answer any of their five questions. The MPs submitted a list of alleged victims, which the EC dismissed as unverified. The TMC said it supports SIR in principle but criticised its execution.

Power tussle hampers State devpt: Yaduveer

MADIKERI

MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar expressed disappointment that the ongoing tussle for the Chief Minister's post between Siddaramaiah and D.K. Shivakumar is hampering Karnataka's development. Speaking to reporters in Madikeri, he said the prolonged power struggle between the two leaders has slowed down the state's progress. Wadiyar mentioned that even Congress leaders themselves have stated that the party's internal issues are of no concern to others, but the impact on governance cannot be ignored.

Congress may pick 'Dark Horse' as CM: Bommai

BENGALURU

BJP on Friday suggested that the Congress high command may sideline both Siddaramaiah and DK Shivakumar and opt for a "dark horse" as the next Chief Minister. Speaking to reporters, former CM and BJP MP Basavaraj Bommai claimed that Siddaramaiah and his deputy are "rigid due to ego," leaving the high command to explore other choices. "Both leaders are unwilling to compromise. This has forced the high command to consider alternatives, and in such a situation, a dark horse may emerge," Bommai remarked.

PUTIN INDIA VISIT

Prez Putin to visit India for Annual Summit

NEW DELHI

Russian President Vladimir Putin will arrive in India on December 4 for a two-day official visit, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) confirmed on Friday. During his stay in New Delhi, President Putin will hold talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi as part of the 23rd India–Russia Annual Summit.

The MEA stated that the visit will provide an opportunity for both leaders to review the current state of bilateral cooperation and identify priorities for further strengthening the Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership between the two nations. Discussions are expected to cover a wide range of topics, including regional security, global developments, and economic ties, reflecting the long-standing strategic relationship between India and Russia.

The summit will also allow India and Russia to exchange perspectives on emerging geopolitical challenges and explore areas for deeper collaboration in sectors such as energy, defence, technology, and trade. This visit comes amid ongoing global uncertainties, and both nations are keen to reinforce their diplomatic, economic, and strategic engagement.

While the detailed itinerary of President Putin's visit is yet to be released, officials indicated that bilateral meetings, joint statements, and press briefings are likely to follow the summit. This marks another milestone in the India–Russia relationship, which has traditionally been characterised by strong political ties, defence cooperation, and shared strategic interests in the international arena.

The visit is expected to further consolidate the partnership and set the stage for future cooperation across multiple sectors, underscoring the mutual commitment of both countries to a long-term, stable bilateral relationship.

QUICK READ

Bengaluru man quits job, drives auto instead

Bengaluru
Rakesh, a Bengaluru resident, went viral after quitting his corporate job to drive an auto-rickshaw. In a social media video, he said, "Money is a necessity, but not the only one. Life has more meaning than a paycheck." He shared that he struggled before but now finds purpose in helping people and facing challenges head-on. The video struck a chord with many, with followers praising his courage to abandon ego, societal pressure, and comfort. Rakesh urged others to focus on life's true value, not just money, inspiring those contemplating bold life changes.

Empty-stomach metro travel risks rising among youth

Bengaluru
Metro officials have warned that traveling on an empty stomach and without enough sleep is causing dizziness and falls among commuters. In the past three months (August–October), 130 people, mostly under 30, were admitted to hospitals after experiencing fainting, blurred vision, sweating, and vomiting during morning rides. Experts advise eating breakfast or carrying bananas, nuts, and water, avoiding standing near doors, and wearing comfortable clothing. Officials urge passengers to prioritize health over rushing, especially during busy mornings, to prevent accidents and ensure safe travel on Bengaluru's metro system.

Bengaluru roads flooded with illegal election banners

Bengaluru
Race Course Road and surrounding areas in Bengaluru are crowded with banners and hoardings for the KEB Engineers Association elections, violating a High Court order banning such displays. Thousands of banners, including those featuring Superintendent Engineer Basavanna and other officials, have appeared across Anand Rao Circle, Gandhinagar, and Energy Bhavan. Citizens have questioned why BESCOM engineers openly flout the law while ordinary residents face penalties for similar actions. Despite clear BBMP rules, the officials show little regard for legal restrictions. The city's beauty and traffic safety are reportedly compromised as authorities have yet to take action against the violators.

Chennai Police Track Down Murder Accused Hiding in B'luru for 22 Yrs

Suspect evaded arrest for decades by posing as an incense-stick seller

DANIEL GEORGE, BENGALURU

The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls may have stirred political debate, but it unexpectedly enabled Chennai police to arrest a murder suspect who had been on the run for nearly 22 years.

The case dates back to May 24, 2004, when Mariyam Beevi, a resident of the Chennai suburbs, alerted the Ennore police that her relative Rajendran—who had taken the name Rafiq after converting to Islam—had confessed to killing his friend Tajuddin during a drunken quarrel. Officers later recovered Tajuddin's body from Rafiq's residence, his throat slit. A murder case was promptly registered, but Rafiq fled, successfully staying out of sight for more than two decades.

During a recent review of long-pending investigations, Avadi Police Commissioner K. Shankar instructed officials to prioritise the cold case. Two special teams led by Ennore Assistant Commissioner Veerakumar began combing through online voter databases and travelling incognito as SIR data collectors to avoid raising suspicion while verifying leads in the field.

Their investigation took them first to Aakkanur village in Cuddalore district, Rafiq's hometown. There, officers learned that after marrying Rasool Beevi and converting to Islam, he had drifted across several districts—Ariyalur, Jayankondam, Tiruchi, and Perambalur—taking up odd jobs and living under the radar. To avoid detection, he sold incense sticks at bus stands and shunned mobile phones.

Fresh intelligence pointed to his frequent presence at public transport hubs. Surveillance teams began monitoring bus stands across the region, eventually receiving a tip that shifted their search to Bengaluru. For nearly a week, officers discreetly observed incense-stick vendors in and around Madiwala Market.

Their patience paid off when they identified Rafiq. Though he initially gave a fake name, an Aadhaar card retrieved from his bag confirmed his true identity. Confronted with the evidence, he admitted to committing the 2004 murder.

Rafiq has since been arrested and remanded in judicial custody, bringing a long-elusive fugitive back within the reach of law after 22 years on the run.

More women needed to humanize Indian journalism: K.V. Prabhakar

BENGALURU

Prabhakar noted the rise of women journalists, urged them to enter political reporting, satire, and cartoons, highlighting their unique insight into family, society, and leadership.

Chief Minister's Media Advisor K.V. Prabhakar on Friday called for reducing male dominance in journalism and increasing the number of women reporters, especially in political reporting. He said more women in the profession would bring honesty, empathy, and balance in news reporting.

Speaking at the Shri Siddaramaiah Endowment Award ceremony organised by the Karnataka Women Journalists' Association at Gandhi Bhavan, Prabhakar honoured senior journalist Sushila Subramanya and Prajavani reporter M.H. Neela. He said women express stories with deeper social feeling, which makes journalism healthier and more people friendly.

Prabhakar noted that earlier there were very few women journalists, but now their number has grown. However, he said most of them are limited to magazines and special supplements. He urged them to enter political reporting, satire writing, and cartoon creation in large numbers. He added that women, who understand family and society closely, can read politics better and question leaders more strongly.

He also shared that during the COVID-19 crisis, countries led by women handled the situation better with care and humanity. He said there is no example of women starting wars easily, but there are many examples of women handling tough situations bravely, from Kittur Rani Chennamma to Indira Gandhi.

Prabhakar warned that chasing news only for sensation will damage the profession. He stressed that freedom of expression should help society, not harm it.

He praised the Women Journalists Association for uniting women from different media fields and urged them to conduct state-level talent searches to find future political analysts and editors.

He also said the Siddaramaiah government is listening to women journalists' demands and has already included a journalist in the Media Academy.

The event was chaired by senior journalist Purnima and attended by retired Justice Nagamohan Das, Pushpa Girimaji, Padma Shivamogga, Manjula Kadakola, and others. The awardees were praised for their lifelong dedication and fearless reporting.

Somashekar emphasized developing lakes in Bangalore to provide drinking water, support agriculture, and help villagers overcome water shortages

MLA Somashekar launches lake development project for farmers

KENGERI

MLA S.T. Somashekar announced plans to develop lakes in rural areas to benefit farmers and local communities. Speaking at the launch of the Chinnajji Lake development work in Lingapur village under K. Gollahalli Gram Panchayat in the Yeshwantpur assembly constituency, he emphasized the importance of lakes as a vital water source.

Somashekar highlighted that lake water provides drinking water to rural residents and supports agricultural activities. He added that developing lakes across Bangalore City district will help collect rainwater, reducing water shortages for farmers and villagers. "When the lakes are restored and filled, people and farmers will be able to overcome the water crisis effectively," he said.

The event saw participation from several local dignitaries, including K. Gollahalli Gram Panchayat President Ratnamma, Vice President Madhu K.M., former President K.M. Mahesh, and community leaders Krishnamurthy (Kitty) and Govindaraju. Other attendees included Bangalore South Taluk TAPCMS Vice President Anil Kumar, Milk Producers Cooperative Association President Anand Kumar, former Taluk Panchayat member K.Y. Shivanna, and PDO Narendra Babu.

The initiative is expected to not only improve water availability but also promote sustainable agriculture and support the livelihoods of local residents. The MLA urged continued community involvement in lake conservation efforts to ensure long-term benefits. This project is part of a broader plan to strengthen water resources and enhance living conditions in rural areas.

Bengaluru North invites citizens for footpath walk

BENGALURU

Bengaluru North City Corporation is organizing the 5th Footpath Walk under its "Walkaluru" initiative to promote pedestrian safety, smooth mobility, and walkable streets in the city. The community-driven 7 km walk will focus on the Thanisandra area, helping identify locations that need improvement and encouraging public participation in enhancing pedestrian infrastructure. The walk will begin at 7:30 AM on Saturday, November 29, starting from Indira Canteen on Thanisandra Main Road. Residents are invited to join the corporation's team, led by Commissioner Sri Pommala Sunil Kumar, to walk alongside fellow citizens and contribute ideas for safer and more accessible streets.

Corporation clears footpath encroachments to ease city walks

BENGALURU

The Bengaluru South Municipal Corporation carried out a special drive to remove illegal footpath encroachments in Uttarahalli and Koramangala, following repeated complaints from residents and commuters. The operation aimed to improve safety and ease movement for pedestrians who were facing daily trouble due to blocked walkways.

Officials said many shop owners, street vendors, and temporary stall operators had occupied public footpaths, forcing people to walk on busy roads. This had increased the risk of accidents, especially for children, elderly people, and office goers. After reviewing the situation and receiving instructions from senior authorities, the corporation decided to take strict action.

In Uttarahalli, the clearance drive was conducted from Anagha Grand Hotel to the road leading to Sri Guru Raghavendra Swamy Math. In Koramangala, the operation covered the stretch from Forum Mall to the water tank area. These locations were identified as heavily encroached zones where people faced major inconvenience.

During the drive, officials removed nine pushcarts, four advertisement poles, two makeshift shelters, two temporary stands, and several unauthorized advertisement boards and banners placed on public footpaths. The items were seized or taken away to clear the walking space.

The corporation said these actions were taken only after proper inspection and warnings to ensure fairness. Officials added that the main goal is not to harm livelihoods, but to maintain order and public safety. They appealed to vendors and shop owners to follow rules and avoid setting up stalls on footpaths.

The Executive Engineer, Assistant Executive Engineer, and other officers and staff members were present on the field to supervise the work. The corporation also warned that such operations will continue in other areas if illegal encroachments return.

Groundbreaking ceremony marks Cauvery statue project

BENGALURU

The Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Seva Trust in Laggere, Bengaluru, organized the groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of a Cauvery statue, marking the start of the ambitious project to honor the river.

Former minister and MLA from Mahalaxmi Layout, K. Gopalaiah, performed the groundbreaking rituals, officially commencing construction work. Speaking at the event, he emphasized the cultural and environmental importance of the Cauvery and the need to preserve public awareness of its significance.

The ceremony was attended by several dignitaries and local leaders. Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Seva Trust President Siddegowda, former BBMP member Manjula Narayanaswamy, and Congress leaders from Ar Ar Nagar constituency, including Narayanaswamy, Hanumantharayappa, and Patel Devaraj, were present. Trust officials and other community members also participated, showing strong local support for the project.

The Cauvery statue is planned as a landmark to inspire awareness about river conservation and local heritage. Organizers hope the monument will become a symbol of pride for residents of Laggere and Bengaluru at large. The project is expected to promote cultural activities while reminding citizens of the environmental importance of protecting rivers for future generations.

KEA announces dates for asst professor eligibility verification

BENGALURU

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has announced that document verification for candidates shortlisted in the provisional merit list of the Assistant Professor Eligibility Test, known as K-SET 25, will begin from November 29 and continue till December 6. The process will take place at the KEA office in Malleshwaram, Bengaluru, starting daily from 9:30 a.m. According to KEA Executive Director H. Prasanna, each subject has been given a specific date for verification. Candidates must attend only on the date fixed for their subject. They should bring all original certificates related to their education and category claims. These documents will be checked and verified by officials to confirm eligibility. Candidates who miss their subject-wise verification dates will get another chance on December 8 and December 9.

LEARNING FROM VALOR

Vishwa Vidyapeeth honors farmers, soldiers

BENGALURU

Vishwa Vidyapeeth conducted months of meaningful pre-event activities ahead of its annual mega programme "Jai Jawan Jai Kisan" for the 2025–26 academic year. The initiative aimed to help students value the sacrifices of Indian soldiers and farmers through real life exposure and hands-on learning.

In the "Jai Jawan" segment, students visited Ladakh, the Kargil War Memorial, and the Hall of Fame. They watched the sound and light show on the Kargil War and paid tribute to fallen heroes. At the Know Your Army Mela and Turtuk border area, they learned about army life and national security.

In Punjab, they saw the Attari Border ceremony and felt deep national pride.

Students also visited INS Kadamba, the Officers Training Academy at Chennai, the Infantry School at Mhow, and the Cellular Jail in the Andaman Islands. They observed army drills, drone shows, rope training, and weapon handling under guidance. They attended the Agniveer passing out parade and learned about discipline and service. Sessions with defence officers, museum visits, and Aero India exposure gave them insight into modern military systems.

In the "Jai Kisan" segment, students worked on natural farms across Karnataka and nearby states. They helped prepare organic fertilizers like Jeevamrutha and Beejamrutha, sowed seeds, transplanted crops, and learned about water and soil care. They studied beekeeping, drip irrigation, millet farming, seed saving, jaggery making, and biogas production.

They also met traditional farmers, learned about desi cow breeds, and explored organic markets. Activities like mushroom growing, paddy planting, and kitchen gardening helped them bring farming skills home.

'Sanitation workers key to building brand Bengaluru'

BENGALURU

Chairman of the Karnataka State Safai Karmachari Commission, P. Raghu, said sanitation workers are the real strength behind making Bengaluru a clean and respected "Brand Bengaluru". He spoke during a direct interaction programme held at MTB Community Hall in Garudachar Palya, under the Bengaluru East City Corporation.

During the programme, pourakarmikas, loaders, cleaners, auto-tipper drivers and other sanitation staff shared their problems. They spoke about lack of basic facilities, recruitment delays, pending wages, PF issues, biometric attendance troubles, shortage of toilets, and delay in compensation to families of workers who died while on duty.

P. Raghu patiently heard all their concerns and directed officials to act quickly. He ordered the expansion of Suvidha rest rooms across the corporation area. He also asked for proper toilet and rest facilities at all mustering points.

QUICK READ

Kalaburagi Supporters Pray for Siddaramaiah to Continue as CM

KALABURAGI

As the power-sharing debate between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar continues to create political tension in the state, Siddaramaiah's supporters in Kalaburagi offered a special prayer wishing that he completes his full term as Chief Minister. On November 28, at 12 noon, his followers gathered at the Shri Sharanabasaveshwar Temple in the city. They placed a photo of Siddaramaiah and performed a ritual by breaking 101 coconuts, praying for his stability in office and for peace in the ongoing political situation. The event took place in the hometown of AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge, adding significance to the supporters' gesture. According to the group, the prayer was meant to send a strong message that people want Siddaramaiah to continue leading the government without any interruption.

Kalaburagi Real Estate Businessman Loses ₹31 Lakh in Gold Scam

KALABURAGI

A real estate businessman from Kalaburagi fell victim to a cyber scam after being promised gold at a cheap price from Dubai. The incident came to light on November 28 around 11 a.m. The victim, Maruti Kalanurkar, received a WhatsApp call from fraudsters who claimed they could arrange gold from Dubai at a much lower price. Trusting their words, Maruti transferred money in multiple stages, amounting to □31 lakh. After receiving the money, the fraudsters cut all contact and disappeared. Realizing he had been cheated, Maruti approached the Cyber Police Station in Kalaburagi, where a case has now been registered. Police have begun an investigation to trace the scammers and recover the lost amount.This incident serves as a reminder to the public to remain cautious about online offers that appear too good to be true.

Massive Fire on Linga Gudi Road Destroys 7 Shops; No Casualties

Late-night fire on Vijayapura's Linga Gudi Road destroys seven shops; gas explosions, but no injuries reported.

VIJAYAPURA

A major fire broke out late at night on November 27 on Linga Gudi Road in Vijayapura city, Karnataka. The blaze reportedly started around 10 p.m. when a cigarette thrown near a food centre caught fire. The flames quickly spread and caused several gas cylinders to explode, turning the area into a dangerous fire zone. Within minutes, the fire moved from the food centre to nearby shops, including a tea stall and a pawn shop. In total, seven shops were completely burnt down, and a nearby house also suffered damage. Although the property loss is significant, the good news is that no one was injured. Firefighters reached the spot quickly, but their operation turned risky when one of the gas cylinders exploded while they were trying to control the flames. They had to pull back for safety but returned to continue the work. A senior fire official later said that the team managed to remove five gas cylinders from the burning area. Their quick action prevented a bigger disaster and possibly saved many lives in the busy commercial lane. Why the Fire Spread So Quickly Linga Gudi Road is a crowded marketplace with many small shops standing close to each other. With limited space and little separation between structures, fires can spread very fast. Investigators believe the spark from the cigarette, mixed with flammable items in the food centre, created the perfect conditions for the fire to grow. The presence of multiple gas cylinders added to the danger.

Local authorities have promised to conduct safety checks in the area. They also plan to educate shopkeepers about safe gas storage and the importance of fire safety in crowded markets. Importance of Gas Safety

Many fires caused by cylinder explosions happen due to poor handling, improper storage, or faulty equipment. Gas cylinders should always be kept upright in a ventilated place, away from heat. Checking for leaks with soapy water, using certified regulators, and replacing worn-out hoses can prevent accidents. If a gas smell is detected, people should ventilate the area, avoid switching on lights, and call emergency services immediately.

Events like the Vijayapura fire remind communities that simple safety steps can save lives and protect businesses.

Cultural Festival Highlights Kannada Language and Heritage

"Art, culture, and music festivals promote Kannada heritage and engage youth effectively."

BIDAR

"Art, literature, and culture reflect our history, and music programs alongside literature can create a lively environment that helps promote the Kannada language," said District In-Charge Minister Eshwar Khandre.

He was speaking at the inauguration of the Bidar Cultural Festival, organized by the K.S.A.P. District Committee and Samartha Seva Sansthe, held at the Karnataka Pharmacy College campus. Lighting the ceremonial lamp, the minister emphasized that today's children and youth are increasingly distracted by mobile phones, neglecting culture and traditional learning. He noted that young people often fail to understand real-life experiences because they spend more time on devices. Large cultural festivals like this help students and youth connect with Kannada heritage and gain exposure to performing arts. Such events also provide opportunities for artists from various districts to showcase their talent. He added that the government is committed to promoting Kannada language and called on everyone to nurture pride in it while pursuing their own work. K.S.A.P. District President Suresh Channashetty welcomed the gathering and highlighted the severe shortage of teachers in Kannada-medium schools. He urged authorities not to close schools, even if only one student remains, stressing that every school is essential for preserving Kannada education. The event was attended by MLA Dr. Siddalingappa Patil, BJP District President Somnath Patil, Dr. Rajneesh Wali, Babu Wali, Basavaraj Jabashetti, Sheshidhar Hosahalli, Dr. Neetu Jairaj Khandre, and singer Vijay Prakash, along with film actors Amulya and Sulaksha Kair, producers Surappa Babu and Umesh Salgar, anchor Anushree, and local artists including Mallikarjun Swami, Ashwini Rajkumar Bamballi, Shambhuli Valadoddi, Maheshwari Panchal, Mahesh Kumbar, Nagaraj Jogi, and Rekha Aparav Saudi.

The festival aimed to strengthen Kannada culture, inspire youth, and provide a platform for artists across the region.

Let Siddaramaiah Continue as CM: Demand by Bhimaraiah Bhandari

YADGIR

Bhimaraiah Bhandari, the president of the Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna Yuva Simha Garjane Organization, strongly insisted that Siddaramaiah should continue as the Chief Minister of Karnataka. He said that there is no need for a change in leadership right now. However, if a situation does arise where a new Chief Minister must be appointed, he suggested that the Congress leadership should choose either Dr. Parameshwara or Satish Jarkiholi for the position.

Speaking at a press conference held at the Press House on Friday, Bhandari said that the current confusion and crisis around the Chief Minister's post has been created mainly because of the AICC president's approach. According to him, if the AICC president had taken a clear and firm decision earlier, such a noisy political situation would not have developed in the state. Due to this uncertainty, several development works have slowed down, he alleged.

Bhandari praised Siddaramaiah for his work, saying that he has been performing his duties well and has shown commitment to the welfare of the people. He questioned why a people-friendly leader should be removed from power without a strong reason. He urged senior Congress leaders not to act based on pressure or suggestions coming from different groups and not to make unnecessary moves to change the Chief Minister.

He emphasized that the stability of the government is important for the progress of the state and requested the party leadership to stop discussing leadership change and instead focus on development issues.

Organization members Marilingappa Bande, Mallappa Pujari, and others were also present during the press conference.

Bhalki Seer Felicitates New Bidar City Corporation

BHALKI

The head of the Hiremutt Institution, Gurubasava Pattaddevaru, recently honoured and blessed Mukul Jain, who has taken charge as the new Commissioner of the Bidar City Corporation. The special felicitation took place in Basavakalyan, where the seer expressed happiness over Jain's promotion and new posting.

During the programme, Gurubasava Pattaddevaru recalled that Mukul Jain had earlier served as the Assistant Commissioner of the Basavakalyan Subdivision, where he performed his duties with dedication and efficiency. The seer said that Jain's sincere work and commitment in his previous role had earned him respect from the public and officials alike.The seer also mentioned that Jain's appointment as the Commissioner of Bidar City Corporation has brought joy to the people of the region. He expressed confidence that under Jain's leadership, Bidar city would witness faster growth and better civic development. The seer wished him success in carrying out his new responsibilities and blessed him for a productive and people-friendly administrative term.Gurubasava Pattaddevaru further said that Bidar is a growing city with many development needs, and he hoped that Jain would continue his positive approach and take up projects that benefit all sections of society. He encouraged the new commissioner to work with honesty and dedication, ensuring improved infrastructure and better facilities for the citizens.

Election Dates Announced for Local Bodies, Including Turvihal

RAICHUR

The State Election Commission has officially announced the dates for elections to several local bodies that had vacant seats for different reasons. This includes the Turvihal Town Panchayat in Sindhanur taluk, where a few positions had remained unfilled and some new seats were recently created.

According to the order, elections for four vacant seats in the Turvihal Town Panchayat will be held on December 21. The formal election notification will be issued on December 2. Candidates who wish to contest can submit their nomination papers until December 9, which is the last day for filing nominations. The scrutiny of these papers will take place on December 10, and candidates will be allowed to withdraw their nominations until December 12.

If voting becomes necessary, polling will be conducted on December 21 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Election Commission has also mentioned that, if for any reason re-polling is needed, it will be held on December 23, again from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The counting of votes is scheduled for December 24, starting at 8:00 a.m. at the taluk headquarters.

The commission further clarified that the Model Code of Conduct will be in force only in the wards where these elections are being held, beginning from the date of the official notification and continuing until the completion of counting.

The voter list prepared for the Assembly elections will be used as the base for these local body elections. All election officers and assistant officers assigned for the poll duties will receive proper training, and they have already been provided with the necessary instructions and guidelines.

Candidates filing their nominations must submit details about their background, movable and immovable assets, educational qualifications, and all other required information.

Hulsoor Upgraded to a Town Panchayat A Contribution of the Congress Government: Vijay Singh

BASAVAKALYAN

Former MLC Vijay Singh has said that the recent decision to upgrade the Hulsoor Gram Panchayat into a Town Panchayat was made possible due to the efforts of the Congress government. He stated that this approval from the state cabinet is the result of his continuous hard work and commitment to the development of the border region.

In a press release, Vijay Singh explained that he has always been dedicated to the overall development of Hulsoor, which is an important area near the state border. Over the years, he worked with the Congress government to bring several development projects to the region. Earlier, people from Hulsoor had to travel all the way to Basavakalyan for even basic office-related work, causing inconvenience to many rural families. To overcome these issues and to promote faster development, he pushed for Hulsoor to be upgraded to a Town Panchayat.

He noted that as the town grows and the population increases, it becomes essential for the government to provide improved facilities. Upgrading the local body was necessary to ensure that development works could be carried out more efficiently. Vijay Singh shared that he repeatedly met the Chief Minister, ministers, and senior officials, submitting several written requests to get approval for this upgrade. Although there were some technical delays earlier, all issues have now been resolved.

He also acknowledged the efforts of District In-charge Minister Eshwar Khandre and Urban Development Minister Rahim Khan for supporting the proposal.

Vijay Singh said he had recently met the Chief Minister and ministers in person, urging them to expedite the process.

MLA and City Commissioner Discuss Plans to Improve Basic Facilities

RAICHUR

To address ongoing problems in the city and to ensure better basic facilities for residents, MLA Dr. Shivaraj Patil held a meeting with the City Municipal Commissioner. The discussion mainly focused on issues related to issuing property "khatas," which many citizens have been struggling to obtain.

The MLA noted that although the municipal corporation is conducting Revenue Adalats in several wards, technical issues are delaying the khata process. He urged officials to fix these technical problems—such as pending tax details and other system errors—so that people can receive their rightful documents without unnecessary delay.

Dr. Patil also raised concerns about the residents living in the lake and fort areas. These citizens have been paying taxes for years. He advised that while new building permissions should not be issued in these sensitive zones, khatas for existing houses must be processed smoothly.

Commissioner Jubin Mahapatra explained that if citizens have old registered documents for their properties, issuing khatas will not be difficult. He also shared that the Raichur Municipal Corporation has partnered with the Mysuru City Corporation under the Swachh Shehar Jodo initiative to improve cleanliness in Raichur with Mysuru's support.

Speaking to the media after the meeting, MLA Dr. Patil said that the Commissioner has assured him of solving many civic issues raised by the public. He encouraged residents to make use of the Revenue Adalats: when officials visit homes, people should openly share any municipal-related problems. After all wards complete their Adalats, the MLA and officials will review the issues and work toward solutions.

"OVER 99,500 SAPLINGS DISTRIBUTED"

Saplings Distributed to Promote Environmental Awareness and Respect for Mothers

BIDAR

As part of the "Ek Lakh Pedh Ka Naam" campaign, Shivayya Swami, member of the Central Government's Committee on State Development, Coordination, and Oversight, distributed saplings to Union Minister of Labour, Employment, and Small Enterprises, Shobha Karandlaje, in New Delhi on Thursday.

The initiative, organized in the name of Mata Karunadevi of Shreeshaila Akka Mahadevi Chaitanya Peetha, aims to instill respect for mothers and raise environmental awareness among the younger generation. Shivayya Swami highlighted that this campaign encourages tree planting and promotes care for nature.

Across India, nearly 99,550 saplings have already been distributed under the campaign. A closing ceremony for the initiative is planned soon to celebrate its success.

Shobha Karandlaje appreciated the effort, stating that such campaigns inspire environmental protection and sustainable growth. She emphasized that initiatives like this help people understand the importance of nurturing both nature and cultural values.

The event was attended by prominent personalities, including Arun Upadhyay, Abhishek Gupta, Alka Chaudhary, Lubna Asif, Madhu, Mahesh Kumar, and Aman Khan, who joined in supporting the sapling distribution and the campaign's goals.

This program not only promotes environmental conservation but also encourages the youth to connect with traditional values while taking practical steps to improve the ecosystem.

QUICK READ

Two farmers survive tiger attack in Hunsur

MYSURU

In Mysuru district, tiger threats continue to rise. After incidents in Saragur and H.D. Kote, a tiger has now appeared in Hunsur, attacking two farmers. The incident took place in Gowdanakoppalu village, where farmers Prakash and Swami narrowly escaped. When the tiger charged at them roaring, the pair shouted for help, and nearby farmers also raised an alarm, forcing the tiger to retreat. Officials from the Forest Department inspected the spot and found that the tiger was staying in the fields with its cubs. Angry villagers surrounded the officials, insisting they should not leave until the tiger is captured. Responding to the pressure, the department launched a night-time operation with four elephants and a special task force to trap the tiger.

Bydareddihalli selected for model village devpt

CHITRADURGA

District Panchayat CEO Dr. S. Akash said that the goal is to develop Bydareddihalli Gram Panchayat—along with Chikkahalli and Banjigere villages—into a model panchayat, which requires cooperation from all stakeholders. He was speaking after launching the Kayaka Grama initiative in Bydareddihalli under Challakere taluk. He explained that the Chief Minister announced the Kayaka Grama concept in the 2025–26 Budget to ensure holistic development of backward panchayats. Senior officials will adopt such villages and directly monitor progress. Accordingly, Bydareddihalli Gram Panchayat will be adopted for comprehensive development. Dr. Akash inspected essential facilities such as the Primary Health Centre, overhead tank, drinking water unit, government school, JJM household tap connections, meter installation, water supply, toilet usage, and solid waste management.

Preparations underway for Karavali Utsava in December

MANGALURU

A preparatory meeting for the upcoming "Karavali Utsava," scheduled in December, was held today at Mangaluru Airport auditorium under the leadership of District In-Charge Minister Dinesh Gundurao. Officials were instructed to ensure all necessary arrangements are in place to host the festival smoothly, as thousands of visitors from across the world are expected, maintaining the high standards set by previous editions. The minister emphasized that authorities must be vigilant and take extra care to prevent any untoward incidents, ensuring proper law and order during the event. The meeting was attended by key district officials, including District Commissioner H.V. Darshan, Superintendent of Police Arun K., and Chief Executive Officer Narwade Vinayak Karbari, along with other district-level officers, to coordinate responsibilities and logistics for a successful festival.

Do not issue notices to farmers without DC approval: Bangarappa

Minister Madhu Bangarappa directs forest officials to stop issuing farmer notices without DC approval, ensuring farmers' protection

SHIVAMOGGA

School Education, Literacy, and District Affairs Minister S. Madhu Bangarappa has instructed forest department officials not to issue notices to farmers without prior approval from the District Commissioner. Speaking at the quarterly KDP meeting held at the District Panchayat Abdul Nazir auditorium, he emphasized that any such action should be stopped immediately, except for ongoing court cases.

During the meeting, legislators Sharda Puryanayeak and Araga Gnanendra highlighted issues such as de facto forest declarations, harassment of farmers, and improper notices issued by forest officials. Minister Bangarappa intervened, stating he would consult with Minister K.J. George next week for clarity and reiterated that notices should not be issued without proper authorization. The District Commissioner, Gurudatt Hegde, assured that surveys regarding deemed forest areas would be conducted and farmers' concerns addressed in the next KDP meeting.

The meeting also addressed critical local issues including shortage of doctors at primary health centers in Nittur, Bakodu, and Teerthahalli constituencies, delayed salaries and lack of PF/ESI benefits for staff, and repeated elephant raids causing crop losses in Arasalu, Maleshankar, and Nandikolu areas. The minister confirmed the deployment of trained personnel to prevent elephant damage and called for strict action against illegal ganja cultivation and sale in Shivamogga city areas.

Officials were instructed to submit a comprehensive report on drug-related incidents within 15 days. The meeting was attended by MLA Gopalakrishna Belluru, DC Gurudatt Hegde, ZP CEO Hemant, MADB Chairman R.M. Manjunathgoud, District Guarantee Committee Chairperson C.S. Chandrabhupal, and other departmental officers. The minister's directives aim to protect farmers' rights, ensure proper law enforcement, and strengthen local governance.

Indian children can lead globally if empowered: Bommai

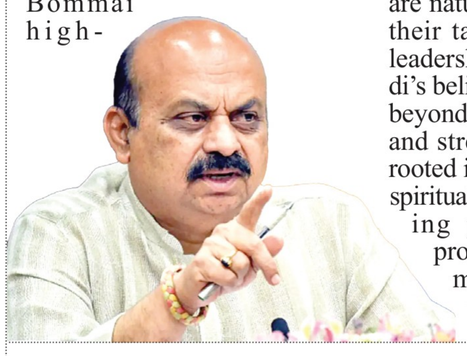
HAVERI

Basavaraj Bommai says India is entering a knowledge era where empowered children can shape a globally leading, culturally rooted nation.

Former Chief Minister and MP Basavaraj Bommai addressed a human-values conference at Bisanalli village in Shiggaon, emphasizing that Indians are among the smartest people in the world. If children are given the right opportunities, he said, they are capable of leading globally. Calling this the "era of India," he noted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi aims to make the country fully developed by 2047.

Speaking at the event held in the presence of Jagadguru Panchacharya, Bommai praised the school that teaches Vedas, Agama, Sanskrit, music, yoga, and astrology. He described Bisanalli as sacred land that is shaping young scholars who will carry cultural values into the future. Without such training, he warned, India's cultural foundations could weaken.

He expressed deep respect for the Jagadguru's efforts to preserve spiritual traditions. Bommai highlighted the unmatched sacrifices of mothers, teachers, siblings, and family members, saying their debts can never be repaid. True life, he said, lies in living for others, not just oneself. Recognising others' good deeds—whether a mother's care, a father's hard work, or a sibling's support—creates a harmonious home and a stronger nation. He urged people to move beyond negativity and embrace love, trust, and compassion. Touching on spirituality, Bommai said human values triumph when people rise above anger, ego, and jealousy. Dharma provides the ability to distinguish right from wrong. He described the present as the age of knowledge, where reason and learning guide progress. Because Indian children are naturally bright, nurturing their talent is key to global leadership. He reiterated Modi's belief that India will thrive beyond any individual leader, and stressed that governance rooted in culture, fairness, and spiritual guidance leads to lasting prosperity. Several prominent seers and community leaders attended the event.



Indigenous Doppler weather radar inaugurated in Mangaluru

MANGALURU

A state-of-the-art, indigenously developed Doppler weather radar has been officially inaugurated in Mangaluru, marking a significant milestone in India's meteorological capabilities. The inauguration, conducted virtually by Union Minister of State for Earth Sciences Dr. Jitendra Singh, included the launch of similar Doppler Radars in Raipur, Chhattisgarh, under the government's Mission Mausam, aimed at strengthening India's weather forecasting network.

This radar is the first of its kind to be installed in Karnataka and has been set up at the India Meteorological Department (IMD) office in Shaktinagar, Mangaluru. Utilizing the Doppler effect, which measures changes in the frequency of waves, the radar can detect rainfall, track the movement of rain clouds, and measure wind speed and direction.

The advanced C-band radar transmits waves both horizontally and vertically and has a coverage radius of up to 250 km. It will play a crucial role in providing accurate forecasts of thunderstorms, heavy rainfall, lightning, hailstorms, strong winds, turbulence, and other severe weather events across Karnataka, Kerala, Goa, South Konkan, North Lakshadweep, and the coastal region of South Maharashtra. Its advanced capabilities also include the detection of hailstorms, enabling timely warnings for extreme weather conditions.

Officials highlighted that the radar will significantly improve early warning systems, disaster preparedness, and overall weather monitoring, benefiting both urban and rural areas. The indigenously developed technology underscores India's growing self-reliance in meteorology and reflects the government's commitment to protecting lives and property through advanced weather forecasting infrastructure. The Mangaluru radar is expected to enhance local forecasting, assist agriculture planning, and provide critical data to authorities for managing natural calamities efficiently, marking a major step forward in the country's meteorological infrastructure.

Koppal farmers safeguard rice straw amid water shortage

KOPPAL

Farmers in Koppal, who usually grow two rice crops annually and supply straw free to livestock in other districts, are this year focusing on safeguarding their own fodder due to limited water availability. The ICC advisory committee has decided not to release water from the Tungabhadra reservoir for the summer crop while repair work continues on the crest gates. Consequently, farmers have begun harvesting the rice in their fields early and are taking measures to carefully store the straw for future use.

Much of the rice along the Tungabhadra riverbed has already been harvested, with some areas, such as the left bank canal, still pending. As fodder is essential for cattle, farmers are transporting the harvested straw using tractors, jeeps, and autos to ensure it is secured for their animals.

Demand for rice straw has surged in areas like Kanakagiri, Kushtagi, and Tavargeera, where farmers are bringing in vehicles to collect straw immediately after harvest.

By storing the straw promptly, farmers hope to prevent future shortages.

Villages including Basarihalli, Jirala, Kanakapura, Navali, Hanumanal, Gouripur, Mallapur, Layadunsi, Varnakheda, Godinal, Hoskudda-Kattapur, Rampur, Nagalapur, Musalapur, Ingaladal, and Kanyaramadugu are actively purchasing straw, paying thousands of rupees per load, and ensuring proper storage for the upcoming lean months.

This proactive approach reflects the farmers' efforts to mitigate the impact of water scarcity on both their crops and livestock feed, ensuring sustainability until the next monsoon.

Power-sharing disputes causing caste clashes is unfortunate: MLC

MYSURU

Mysuru MLC H. Vishwanath has criticised the growing caste-based tensions within the Congress over the issue of power sharing, calling the situation unfortunate.

Speaking at a press conference at Jaladarshini Guest House, he alleged that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah himself is responsible for the current turmoil. According to him, disagreements within a political party are acceptable, but conflicts between communities are dangerous and unnecessary.

He pointed out that when Vokkaliga seer Nirmalanandanath Swamiji speaks on one side and Kaginele seer speaks on another, it inevitably appears like a caste clash—something he blames on Siddaramaiah's failure to keep his promises.

Vishwanath also criticised Siddaramaiah's son Yathindra for making dismissive remarks about Nirmalanandanath Swamiji, saying no one other than Yathindra is speaking in defence of Siddaramaiah.

He accused the Chief Minister of harming AHINDA leaders despite calling himself their representative.

He claimed Siddaramaiah sidelined many leaders brought into Congress, denied tickets to loyal workers, and even indirectly helped rivals win elections.

Listing past incidents, Vishwanath reminded Siddaramaiah that many Vokkaliga leaders—including former MLAs and former Prime Ministers H.D. Deve Gowda and Ramakrishna Hegde—had helped him rise politically. He also said that D.K. Shivakumar once wrote a five-page letter to Sonia Gandhi to support Siddaramaiah's entry into Congress, and now betraying him would be unfair.

Calling Shivakumar a committed Congressman, Vishwanath insisted that the Deputy CM must be given the CM post as promised.

He demanded that Siddaramaiah honour his word and hand over power, challenging him to go to Chamundi Hills and publicly declare that no such promise was ever made. If he cannot do so, Vishwanath said, Siddaramaiah must respect the agreement and transfer power to Shivakumar without delay.

Supporters perform special puja for CM amid leadership tussle

CHIKKAMAGALURU

In Chikkamagaluru, the ongoing leadership tussle within the Karnataka Congress has triggered unusual expressions of public support. Amid this political turbulence, a group of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's supporters performed a special puja, praying that he continue as the state's CM. Holding placards reading "Justice for Chief Minister Siddaramaiah," the devotees gathered at the Ganapathi Temple near the taluk office. They offered coconuts, performed rituals in Siddaramaiah's name, and chanted slogans urging that he remain in power. This development comes soon after Adichunchanagiri seer expressed support for Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar to become the next Chief Minister. The statement has activated several Vokkaliga community organisations, who have begun rallying behind Shivakumar. In his hometown Mysuru, Vokkaliga leaders held a meeting at a private hotel, declaring their support for Shivakumar's claim to the top post. Over 50 leaders from across political parties—including JDS, BJP, and Congress—participated. They asserted that if Siddaramaiah steps down willingly, the community will honour him; but if there is injustice to Shivakumar, they are ready to protest on the streets. Meanwhile, Siddaramaiah has reportedly conveyed to the high command that no hasty decisions should be made and that discussions should wait until the budget session, as current political conditions differ from earlier expectations.

Shivakumar, on the other hand, is said to have insisted that the earlier power-sharing agreement must be honoured and that he cannot wait until the budget. He has reportedly asked the leadership to take legislators' opinions and arrive at a clear decision, even if given time only until January 14.

BJP PROTESTS FOR FARMERS

BJP demands immediate solutions for farmers' problems

SHIVAMOGGA

The district unit of BJP's Kisan Morcha organized a massive protest today, marching from Gopivritta (Srinappashetti Vritta) to the District Commissioner's office to highlight the daily struggles faced by farmers in Shivamogga. A public meeting was held on the road outside the DC office, where party leaders submitted a memorandum demanding urgent intervention to resolve farmers' issues.Addressing the gathering, BJP leader R.K. Siddaraman noted that excessive rainfall has caused widespread crop losses, yet affected farmers have received little or no compensation. Small-scale crop yields remain unsupported, with no access to minimum support prices or procurement facilities. He criticized the state government for ignoring farmers' concerns while engaging in political disputes, leaving farmers helpless.

Former district BJP president T.D. Meghraj highlighted specific issues: sugarcane farmers received fair prices only after party interventions, but maize procurement centers remain non-functional. Pulses in Gulbarga were destroyed due to heavy rains, ginger crops suffered from leaf-spot disease, and areca nut yields declined due to fungal infections despite favorable prices. Poor-quality electricity supply is damaging agricultural pump sets, and authorities have failed to provide timely irrigation.

The BJP leaders demanded immediate measures, including scheduled three-phase electricity for irrigation, urgent repairs of irrigation tanks, scientific and technical support to control crop diseases, proper procurement at minimum support prices for paddy, maize, and ragi, and compensation for crop losses due to elephants, wild boars, and other wildlife.

They also urged financial support for solar fencing around farmlands.

District BJP president N.K. Jagadish, Kisan Morcha president Siddalingappa, and leaders including Mohan Reddy, Malatesh, Shivraj, Ganesha Biliki, Kumar Naidu, Mahesh, Suresh, Mallikarjun, Ballikere Santosh, Gayatri Mallappa, and Prabhakar (Prabhu) actively participated in the protest.

The party warned that if these demands are not addressed promptly, a larger statewide farmers' agitation will be launched, and farmers are prepared to take to the streets.

QUICK READ

Applications open for rural resettlement worker posts

Chitradurga

The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities and Senior Citizens has invited applications for vacant Rural and Urban Resettlement Worker positions in Chitradurga district. Eligible candidates aged 18 to 45 with disabilities can apply for nine rural posts across four taluks' Gram Panchayats and for urban posts in Holalkere and Hosadurga municipalities. Selected candidates will receive a monthly honorarium of ₹10,000. Applicants must have passed SSLC and can obtain application forms from Multi-Purpose Resettlement Workers at respective taluk offices, submitting completed forms to the same. Vacancies include Siddapura and Sirigere (Chitradurga), Nagagondanahalli and Tuppadahalli (Holalkere), Gannanayakanahalli and Kasturi Ranganappanahalli Ranganathpura (Hiriyur), Chikka Byaladakere and Hunavindhu (Hosadurga). For details, contact the District Officer for Welfare of Persons with Disabilities, Chitradurga, at 08194-235284.

Action against sale of ration rice in black market

Vijayapura

The Department of Food, Civil Supplies, and Consumer Affairs distributes 10 kg of rice per eligible member free of cost under the NFSA and Anna Bhagya schemes through the public distribution system to Endowment and Priority ration cardholders. Officials have warned that if this free ration rice is found being sold in black markets, strict action will be taken. In such cases, the ration card will be suspended for six months, and a fine equivalent to the market price of the rice will be imposed, as per government orders. The announcement emphasizes the importance of using subsidized food grains solely for the benefit of entitled beneficiaries and preventing misuse.

Street play highlights health awareness initiatives

Chitradurga

A street play on national health programs and World Toilet Day was staged at J.J. Hatti in Chitradurga on Friday by the Manvita Folk Arts troupe, titled "Our Toilet – Our Future." The event, organized by the District Health and Family Welfare Department and the Taluk Health Officer's office, was inaugurated by Taluk Health Officer Dr. B.V. Girish. Dr. Girish highlighted maternal and child care, immunization drives, and issues related to infant and maternal mortality. He also announced the upcoming pulse polio program from December 21 to 24. District Health Education Officer Krishnanayak emphasized the importance of sanitation and personal hygiene, urging citizens to use toilets regularly to ensure health and social well-being as part of the "Our Toilet – Our Future" campaign, running until December 10. Deputy District Health Education Officer Gouramma demonstrated preventive measures for tuberculosis, leprosy, infectious, and non-infectious diseases.

Mega Lok Adalat on Dec 13 in Chikkaballapur district

Chikkaballapura district will hold a grand National Lok Adalat on December 13

CHIKKABALLAPUR

A grand National Lok Adalat will be held on December 13 across all courts in Chikkaballapura district to speedily dispose of pending cases, announced Principal District and Sessions Judge and District Legal Services Authority Chairman T.P. Ramalingegowda.

Speaking at a press meet organized by the District Legal Services Authority on Friday, he said that citizens who pay fines for traffic and other compoundable violations by December 12 will get a 50% rebate on the penalty amount.

Currently, around 48,000 cases are pending in various courts of the district. Of these, 6,900 cases have already been identified for the Lok Adalat, and about 10,000 cases are expected to be taken up by December 12. The target is to settle 8,000–10,000 cases on December 13 itself.

Cases including compoundable criminal matters, bank recovery, motor accident claims, labour disputes, electricity & water bill issues, salary & service matters, matrimonial disputes, cheque bounce, revenue, civil and other negotiable cases will be resolved through compromise. Free legal advice and guidance will also be provided.

The Judge urged the public to first approach the concerned department or officer to resolve grievances. If unsatisfied, they may contact the District Legal Services Authority, Taluk Legal Services Committees, or mediation centres.

He emphasized that Lok Adalat settlements are quick, cost-effective, permanent, and help maintain relationships while reducing enmity and promoting social harmony.

People wishing to settle cases in the December 13 Lok Adalat may contact the District Legal Services Authority or Taluk Legal Services Committees in advance.

Senior Civil Judge and DLSA Member Secretary Shalpaya were present at the press conference.

Graduate Constituency voter list sees surge in registration

CHITRADURGA

The district has six assembly constituencies, with the Bangalore Division Regional Commissioner serving as the election officer for Agneya Padavidhar.

Secretary of the Election Commission, Suman Kumar Das, emphasized the importance of improving the voter list preparation process, particularly for graduate and teacher constituencies, which historically see lower participation compared to assembly and parliamentary elections. Many eligible voters often remain unregistered, and the Commission is actively exploring ways to simplify and streamline registration so that every eligible individual can be included.

On Friday, Secretary Das visited the District Commissioner's office to review preparations for finalizing the voter list in the Agneya Padavidhar constituency. Following the 2016 Supreme Court directive, preparations for graduate and teacher constituency elections begin one year in advance, giving ample time for registration. To make the process more accessible and transparent, suggestions were invited from assistant election officers across these constituencies nationwide.

During the registration drive from September 30 to November 6, 37,976 Form-18 applications were submitted in Agneya Padavidhar, a significant increase from the 21,024 voters recorded in 2020. Of these, 211 applications were rejected, and 567 applications from other districts were accepted. The draft voter list, published on November 18, now lists 37,198 registered voters. Secretary Das commended officials for their efforts in promoting registration.

The recent social and educational survey also supported the initiative. Enumerators collected educational data from households and raised awareness about voter registration among graduates.

Pratibha Karanji showcases student talent and growth

CHITRADURGA

The "Pratibha Karanji" initiative by the Education Department serves as an excellent platform to bring out the true talent of students. Chitradurga Cluster Education Officer H. Girija emphasized that students' skills must be identified and selected fairly.

The program was inaugurated at the Sampige Siddheshwara School premises as part of the Chitradurga West Cluster Pratibha Karanji. DCC Bank directors and local advisory committee member Kogunde Dyamanna highlighted that such platforms guide students toward a meaningful future. By freely showcasing their talents, students can contribute to their holistic development, helping build a skilled India of tomorrow.

Cluster Coordinator Sampath Kumar said student life is invaluable, and opportunities like these should be fully utilized. Programs like Pratibha Karanji help identify exceptional talents at the district, state, and national levels.

Resource person Ajay Kumar noted that over 750 students from 32 schools participated in various competitions. These students were selected at the school level and brought here for further evaluation. He congratulated the adjudicators for their responsibility in identifying talented students and teachers for training them effectively at the school stage.

KHRC member urges officials to uphold human rights

VIJAYAPURA

S.K. Ontigodi, member of the Karnataka State Human Rights Commission, urged officials to address public grievances with empathy and ensure human rights are protected at every level. Speaking at a taluk-level officials' meeting held at the Basavan Bagwadi Municipal Hall on Thursday, he emphasized that the Commission's primary objective is to safeguard human rights, prevent violations, and provide timely redressal.

Ontigodi advised officials to take prompt action on local public issues, resolving them at their level while maintaining a humane approach.

He stressed that the dignity and respect of human rights must be upheld, and government services should reach genuine beneficiaries effectively. Officials were reminded to remain vigilant to prevent any violation of rights under all circumstances.

He highlighted the importance of ensuring basic amenities, including safe drinking water, proper drainage, solid waste disposal, and adequate sanitation facilities in schools and hostels. Officials were instructed to verify that essential infrastructure reaches intended recipients and that all preventive measures are in place to maintain human rights standards.

CHANGE OF NAME

I DHANALAKSHMAMMA W/O RAVIKRISHNA H, R/O No 44, 1st Main 6th Cross, Behind Syndicate Bank Colony, S V G Nagar Moodalapalya, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore North, Karnataka - 560072, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as LAKSHMAMMA.

CHANGE OF NAME

I GOVIND S/O PARMONO KUMAR R/O C-604, DSR Spring Beauty Apartments, ITPL Main Road, Brookefield, Marathahalli, Doddanekkundi, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560037, have changed the name of my minor son ANANT MEHRA aged 5 years and he shall hereafter be known as ANANT MEHRA SINGH.

ADVERTISEMENT

I, Mrs. K.M. Jayalakshmi, aged about 53 years, wife of N. Mohan, residing at Sri Mata Nilaya, 194, Kanakapura Town, Ward No. 27, 4th Cross, Vivekanandanagar, Kanakapura Taluk, Bangalore South District, am a resident of the above address.
2 : The Bangalore City Co - Operative Housing Society Limited. Through its President Shri T N Seshagiri and Secretary Bharathi, the sale deed is registered in the office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Kengeri, Bangalore, as Document Book -1, No.: KNK-1-37307-2003-04 in CD No. KenKD38 dated: 20-03-2004 have extended sale deed and is a pure purchase. On: 01-08-2025, while cleaning our house, the sale deed was accidentally lost. Despite much searching, it could not be found. I have also filed a complaint with the concerned police station for the same. Complaint No.: 1914638/2025, the above facts are true and I have made a affidavit in the presence of Ramachandra Advocate and Notary on 21.11.2025.
If anyone finds it, they can contact the mobile number below.
9845198573

Town Municipal Council Chikodi

SL:TMC:CKD:AMRIT:2025-26 Date:27.11.2025

(KPP Portal) Tender notification
(Notice inviting tender through KPP Portal)

Town Municipal Council Chikodi invites tender for Manufacturer or Authorized Dealer or Supplier in KG-3 Document for work under Jal Hi Amrit 2.0 Grant 1) Indent No 5452/call-3 Rs. 75.00 lakh, Work period 3 month.
SL No:1:Last Date & Time for Tender document download:27.11.2025,SL No:2:Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders:04.12.2025 @ 4.00 PM,SL No:3:Date & Time for Opeiving of Technical Bid:06.12.2025 @ 4.00 PM,SL No:4:Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid:08.12.2025 @ 11.00 AM,SL No:5:Number of days to extend:2 Days
Above tender work details are in available KPPP website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in and TMC website www.chikoditown.mrc.gov.in.

Sd/-Chief Officer TMC Chikodi

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1400/KSMCA/2025-26

CH CLASSIFIEDS
To place a classified ad contact:
080-41209042

NAME CHANGE

I, **MUNEER AHMED**, S/o Vezeer Sab H P, resident of No. Apartment No 12/3, 1st Main Cross L R Bande Road, Appajiappa Layout, Shampura, A C post Bengaluru - 560045, Have changed my name to **MUNEER AHMED H N**, vide affidavit dated: 28.11.2025, before Notary MEER HASSAN, Bangalore

ನಗರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಹೊಸಕೋಟೆ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಹೊಸಕೋಟೆ– 562114
ಸಹಾಯವಾಣಿ : 27931759, ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 27931221,
Email: itstaff_ulb_hosakote@yahoo.com Web Site.www.hosakotecity.mrc.gov.in
ನಂ:ನಸಹೊ/ಆಶಾ/ಘವನಿ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/ಸಿಆರ್/10/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 28.11.2025

"ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ" (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಕೆ.ಟಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ)

ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು ನಗರಸಭೆ ಹೊಸಕೋಟೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಇವರಿಂದ 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ನಗರಸಭಾ ನಿಧಿ ಅನುದಾನ ಹಾಗೂ ಸ್ವಚ್ಛ ಭಾರತ್ ಮಿಷನ್ 2.0 ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಏಕ/ದ್ವಿ–ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಡಿ ಅರ್ಹ ದರ್ಜೆಯ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ /ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಿಂದ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಲು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ
01	DMA/2025-26/SE5896/Call-4	15.00	37,500/–
02	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT52011	125.14	1,87,710/–

1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/portal/portal-home** ನಿಂದ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು.
2) ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಶಾಖೆಯ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಪರಿಸರ) ರವರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು
ನಗರಸಭೆ, ಹೊಸಕೋಟೆ

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾ.ಪ್ರ/4063/ಶರಡಿಸಾಯಿ/2025–26

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
(District Urban Development Cell)
Kalaburagi District, Kalaburagi, Phone No: 08472 – 278604 Fax no: 08472 – 278602
E-mail: ka.kalaburagi.dudc@gmail.com & itstaff_dudc_gulbarga@yahoo.com

No.DUDC/Amrut Nagarothana(Mun)-4/INC 5%/59/2025-26 Date: 28.11.2025

CALL-2 TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Executive Engineer, District Urban Development Cell, Deputy Commissioner Office Kalaburagi invites tenders in accordance with KTPP Act 1999 rules 2000 through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal in two cover system using **KW-4 document** from Eligible PWD Civil Contractors for **Amrut Nagarothana (Municipality)-4 Incentive 5% Grant** Kalaburagi District Package works as detailed below:

Sl. No 01) **Description of Work,** Providing and Erection of Designer Electrical Poles and Centre Median at Lodging Cross to Bus Depo in **Chittapur Town.TENDER NO:- DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT49870/ CALL-2 Amount put to Tender(Rs. In Lakhs) 100.61** (Excluding GST), **EMD Amount(Rs.) 1,51,000/- Class of Contractor** Eligible PWD registered contractor **Period of completion excluding rainy season** 6 Months from the date of award.

Contractors can download and submit the tenders from dated: **28.11.2025** through **Karnataka Public Procurement portal** at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/** Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Calendar of Events and other information are as follows:
1. Last Date & Time for Tender Queries/Clarifications, **12.12.2025 upto 2.34 PM**
2. Last Date & Time for receipt of Tenders, **15.12.2025 upto 2.35 PM**
3. Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid, **17.12.2025 at 11.35 AM**
4. Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid, **24.12.2025 at 10.35 AM**

Postponement of Calender of events (or if any information is only published through e-Procurement portal only) and will not be published in newspapers.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/795/2025-26/Deshpande Publicity

Sd/- Executive Engineer, DUDC Kalaburagi.

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಸಿವಿಲ್ ವಿಭಾಗ ಸಯ್ಯಾಜಿರಾವ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು ಇ–ಮೇಲ್– eewmccmys@gmail.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾ.ಇಂ(ಪೂ&ಪ)/ಸಾ.ಟೆಂ.ಪ್ರ–20/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26.11.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಒಟ್ಟು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು	ಒಟ್ಟು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ
	ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು					
1	ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾ.ಅ(ಪ)/ಟಿ.ಎನ್–52/2025–26, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20.11.2025	09	206.51	25.11.2025 & 26.11.2025	02.12.2025 & 03.12.2025	03.12.2025 & 04.12.2025
				ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11ರ ನಂತರ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.25 ವರೆಗೆ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.26 ರ ನಂತರ
2	ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾ.ಅ(ಪ)/ಟಿ.ಎನ್–53/2025–26, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26.11.2025	05	90.16	27.11.2025	11.12.2025	12.12.2025
				ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11ರ ನಂತರ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.25 ವರೆಗೆ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.26 ರ ನಂತರ
3	ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾ.ಅ(ಪ)/ಟಿ.ಎನ್–54/2025–26, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 27.11.2025	01	33.50	28.11.2025	05.12.2025	06.12.2025
				ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11ರ ನಂತರ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.25 ವರೆಗೆ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.26 ರ ನಂತರ
	ಸರ್ವೀಸ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು					
4	ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾ.ಅ(ಪ)ವಾ.ವಿ/2025–26, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25.11.2025	03	49.00	25.11.2025	02.12.2025	03.12.2025
				ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11ರ ನಂತರ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.25 ವರೆಗೆ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.26 ರ ನಂತರ
	ಗೂಡ್ಸ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು					
05	ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾ.ಅ(ಪ)ವಾ.ವಿ/2025–26, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25.11.2025	01	99.48	26.11.2025	12.12.2025	15.12.2025
				ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11ರ ನಂತರ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.25 ವರೆಗೆ	ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.30 ರ ನಂತರ

ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರವನ್ನು ಕಚೇರಿ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಪೂರ್ವ ಮತ್ತು ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ) ರವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.
ವಿಶೇಷ ಸೂಚನೆ: ಮುಂದೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸೂಚನೆ / ಬದಲಾವಣೆ / ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಯಾವುದೇ ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಪ)
ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಪ)
ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಮೈಸೂರು/1295/ಎಸ್‌ಎಸ್‌ಸಿ/2025–26

MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE LIMITED
FORMERLY MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE PVT LTD
CIN : U65923KL2010PLC039179
Regd Office: IV/470A (OLD) W/638A (NEW) Manappuram House Valapad Thrissur, Kerala 680567
Corp Office: Manappuram Home Finance Limited, Third Floor, Unit No. 301 to 315, A Wing, 'Kanakia Wall Street', Andheri-Kurla Road, Andheri East, Mumbai-400093, Maharashtra.
Phone No.: 022-66211000, **Website:** www.manappuramhomefin.com

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of **Manappuram Home Finance Ltd ("MAHOFIN")** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest *[Act], 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 9 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a **Demand Notice** calling upon the borrowers and co-borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice and Interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Symbolic** possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said *[Act] read with rule 9 of the said rules. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Manappuram Home Finance Ltd as mentioned below for each of the respective properties:

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower and Co-borrower / Loan account number/ Branch	Description Of Secured Asset In Respect Of Which Interest Has Been Created	Date of Demand Notice sent & Outstanding Amount	Date of Possession
1	Somashekara C R, Jayalaxmi P, Ravi C M, **/NHL00920010674/** Vinayanagar Ramnagara	Property Bearing No.782/5, Pl.D. No.1521002030400120173, Situated At Chamanahalli Village, Chamanahalli Gramapanchayath, Madduru Taluk, Mandya District, Karnataka - 571429 Total Measuring 122.63 Meters. East-Own Site, West-Own Site, South-C K Vijayamma, North-Road	18-08-2024 & Rs.390999/-	25-11-2025
2	Renuka M, Malthesh Hallur, **/MHL00510018888/** Shimoga	Rdpr Khata No.152400403900300022, As Per Gram Panchayat Record Property No. 29/2 Measuring In Total 176.52 Sq Meter Including Measuring 92.90 Sq Meter House Property Situated At Channahalli, Nelavagilu Gram Panchayat. Shikaripura Taluk And Shivamogga District, Karnataka - 577427. East Property of Sharadamma W/O Guddappa, West-Property of Halluru Durugappa, South-Gram Panchayat Road, North-Drainage	18-08-2024 & Rs.480814/-	25-11-2025
3	Thimmaraju V, Chithra J, Pavithra M K, **/NHL00340007901/** Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No.143/114/B, Pl.D. No. 1521004085003001 59, Situated At Ragimuddanahalli Village, Thubinakere Grama Panchayath, Mandya Taluk And Mandya District, Measuring East To West 6.096 Meters And North To South 18.288 Meters, Total Measuring 111.48 Square Meters, Karnataka, Pin Code: 571402. East Venkateshaiah, West Hombamma, South-Road, North-Land Belongs To Basavegowdru	18-08-2024 & Rs.530068/-	25-11-2025
4	Meenakshi P, Veerabadra DS, **/MHL00930002274/** Tumkur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Residential Building Bearing Grama Panchayath Khatha No.106/182/1 (Old Khatha No.106/82) And E-Khatha No.152500301401420036 Measuring East To West: 15.24 Mtrs And North To South: 9.144 Mtrs Is Situated At Devarahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Koratagere Taluk, Tumkur District, Karnataka, Pin: 572129. East- Road, West-Gally And After House Belongs To Rudramma, South-Gally, North- House Belongs To H. N. Basavaraju	18-08-2024 & Rs.475197/-	25-11-2025
5	Nethravathi N, Nagabhushan L, Narayanappa N, **/MHL00930017006/** Tumkur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing Katha No.33 And E-Katha No.152500300700120081 Measuring East To West: 13.716000000000001 Meters And North To South: 21.031200000000002 Meters, Situated At Yettuganahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Koratagere Taluk, Tumkur District, Karnataka, Pin Code: 572129. East-Property of Dasakubaiah, West-Road, South-Property of K. Govindaiah, North-Conservancy And House of Ganganagappa	18-08-2025 & Rs.508045/-	25-11-2025
6	Siddappa S, Kempamma M, Sudha S, Kempanna M, **/CO90COLONS 00000500865 1/** Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of Property Bearing Horeyala Gramapanchayathi Khatha No. 4 And As Per Form No. 9 And 11 A Unique No. 150802016004000 07 Situated At Hirekate Village, Gundlupete Taluk, Within The Jurisdiction of Horeyala Gramapanchayathi, Measuring East To West 5.18 Meters And North To South : 11.10Meters, Karnataka, Pin Code: 571109. East-House of Rajappa Son of Shivalingappa, West-Site of Parashivamurthy And Mahadevaswamy H.b, South-Road, North-House of Kantappa	18-08-2025 & Rs.626696/-	25-11-2025
7	Shreenivasa K V, Prema Kumari N, Venkataravanappa C, **/NHL00930019484/** Tumkur	Property Bearing Katha No.106/83 And E-Katha No.152500301801500190, Measuring East To West: 12.192 Meters And North To South: 9.144 Meters, Situated At Singalikepura Village, Holavanahalli Hobli, Koratagere Taluk, Tumkur District, Karnataka Pin: 572129.East-Road, West-House of Nanjamma, South-Galli, North-Road	18-08-2024 & Rs.529188/-	25-11-2025

Date: 29th November 2025 | Place: KARNATAKA **Sd/- Authorised Officer Manappuram Home Finance Ltd**

QUICK READ

Delhi private schools to begin Nursery admissions from Dec 4

New Delhi

Nursery admissions in over 1,700 private schools across Delhi will begin on December 4, according to the Directorate of Education. Applications for Nursery, KG and Class 1 for the 2026–27 year will follow transparent guidelines, with all draws of lots held in front of parents. The first list of selected students will be released on January 23, followed by a second list on February 9. Schools can charge only a ₹25 registration fee, and prospectus purchases are optional. Parents can apply online at the DoE website and must upload required documents. The government says the streamlined process will ease stress for families.

Delhi crime branch nabs repeat offender in NRI case

New Delhi

Delhi Police have arrested Tarun, also known as Gadam Wala, a habitual offender linked to 68 criminal cases, solving a snatching incident involving an NRI woman. Tarun had been absconding for seven months after fleeing a case registered at Karol Bagh, where a woman from California was robbed of her gold chain on April 5. Police earlier arrested his associate Rahul, recovering the chain and scooty. Acting on secret inputs, the Crime Branch caught Tarun in Aman Vihar. He admitted to the crime, saying he committed it to fund drug use. Police say the arrest is a major step in curbing repeat offenders.

Fierce gunbattle erupts near Manipur Myanmar border

Security teams arrested six, including five KCP militants involved in widespread extortion across Imphal East and West areas

IMPHAL

A fierce gunbattle broke out on Friday along the Manipur–Myanmar border when an Assam Rifles patrol came under fire from suspected militants. Soldiers returned controlled fire to avoid harm to nearby villagers. Extra troops were rushed to the area, and the operation is still going on, officials said.

Manipur shares a long 398-kilometre unfenced border with Myanmar, which often allows easy movement of armed groups, drug smugglers, and other illegal elements. Because of this, security forces stay on high alert in these sensitive zones.

In separate joint operations, security teams arrested six people in the last 24 hours. Five of them were active militants of the banned Kangleipak Communist Party. Police

said they were involved in extortion across Imphal East and West areas, targeting common people, contractors, petrol pumps, and schools.

One accused, Khulem Robindro Singh, was also recruiting young boys into the group. In another case, Yumnam Chandra Singh, also known as Baby, was arrested from his home. Police recovered two high power grenades, a mobile phone, and his Aadhaar card.

Security forces have set up 115 checkpoints across valley and hill districts to stop illegal movement. They are also giving armed escorts to trucks carrying essential goods on the Imphal–Jiribam highway to keep travel safe.

Police urged people not to believe rumours or fake videos on social media. They warned that sharing false posts will lead to legal action, and asked citizens to check facts with the control room. The situation along the border remains tense, and security operations are continuing to restore peace and protect innocent lives in the region amid rising concerns today.

Punjab bus strike leaves thousands stranded statewide

Tensions rose in Sangrur as PRTC employees clashed with police, threatening self-immolation with petrol bottles, before authorities intervened and restored control over the situation

CHANDIGARH

Commuters across Punjab were left stranded on Friday after contractual employees of Punjab Roadways, Punbus and the Pepsu Road Transport Corporation (PRTC) launched a strike. The employees took action after police detained several union leaders who were protesting the opening of tenders under the controversial Kilometre Scheme. As a result, more than 3,000 buses remained off the roads, causing major travel disruptions.

Women, who normally travel free on state-run buses, were among the worst affected. Reports from Patiala, Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Moga, Amritsar and Ferozepur described long queues and confusion as passengers struggled to find alternative transport. Many were forced to spend extra money on private buses and taxis to reach their destinations.

The Kilometre Scheme has been widely criticised by transport unions, who argue that it encourages corruption and allows private operators to enter government routes through the "backdoor." They fear this will weaken the state-run transport sector, reduce job security and push unemployment higher.

Tensions escalated in Sangrur, the home district of Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, where a scuffle broke out between PRTC employees and police. Some protesting workers climbed onto buses carrying petrol bottles and threatened self-immolation before police intervened and brought the situation under control.

Union leaders said around 8,000 contractual employees participated in the strike across all 27 depots in Punjab's 23 districts. Farmer group Samyukt Kisan Morcha condemned the police action, calling it a violation of democratic rights and urging the government to hold talks instead of making arrests.

Ex TTD Chairman quizzed in Parakamani theft probe

VIJAYAWADA

Former TTD Chairman and YSRCP leader Y. V. Subba Reddy appeared before the Special Investigation Team (SIT) on Friday regarding the Parakamani theft case at Tirumala temple. He was questioned by ADGP and CID chief Ravi Shankar Ayyanar at the Vijayawada CID office. The case stems from April 2023, when TTD employee Ravi Kumar was caught stealing $920 from the Parakamani counting centre. The matter was settled in a Lok Adalat in September 2023, with Kumar donating seven properties worth around Rs 40 crore to TTD, transferred during Subba Reddy's tenure. The probe reopened after a petition challenged the settlement. Investigations continue, following the suspicious death of former TTD vigilance officer Y. Satish Kumar.

The Bill imposes up to ten years' jail and fines for hidden remarriage, with compensation, excluding ST and Sixth Schedule areas

BJP backs Assam government's anti-polygamy bill move

NEW DELHI

The Assam Legislative Assembly has passed the Assam Prohibition of Polygamy Bill, 2025, making polygamy a criminal offence with jail up to seven years. The move has triggered sharp political reactions across the country. The BJP welcomed the law and called it a reform needed for social discipline and family values. BJP MP Praveen Khandelwal said Indian cultural traditions support one marriage and this step will help protect society and its structure. Party leader RP Singh also backed the law, saying no modern society can accept a person marrying again while the first spouse is still alive. He congratulated the Assam government for taking what he described as a bold and required decision.

Congress leaders, however, strongly opposed the Bill and called it unnecessary. Congress MLA Debabrata Saikia said that similar provisions already exist and accused the government of raising this issue to cover up slow development in the state. Party spokesperson Surendra Rajput also attacked Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and said the law is being used for political advantage as elections come closer.

He argued that customs followed by some tribal communities cannot be changed easily just by passing a law in the Assembly.

The Bill has tough punishment clauses. Anyone who marries again while hiding an existing marriage can face up to ten years in jail along with a fine. It also provides compensation for the affected woman. But it will not apply to Scheduled Tribes and Sixth Schedule areas, which have special constitutional protection.

Chief Minister Sarma said the Bill is a step towards a future Uniform Civil Code and aims to protect women's rights. The political debate is likely to continue, but the law has already become a major topic of discussion across Assam and the country.

Calcutta HC seeks CAG reply on flood-relief probe delay

KOLKATA

The Calcutta High Court has asked the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) to explain the delay in submitting its final report on alleged ₹1,000-crore irregularities in 2017 flood-relief funds in Malda district. A division bench of Acting Chief Justice Sujoy Paul and Justice Partha Sarathi Sen issued the direction after noting that the CAG had already probed the case but not made its findings public. The court has asked for an explanation by December 15. Earlier, a PIL prompted the probe, with the initial CAG report pointing to irregularities and naming some panchayat members. The court questioned the delay in filing the follow-up report.

Patna tightens security before Bihar Assembly session

PATNA

The Patna district administration has announced strict restrictions ahead of the first session of the 18th Bihar Legislative Assembly, which will be held from December 1 to December 5. The step is aimed at maintaining peace and ensuring that the Assembly proceedings run without any disturbance.

Officials said that several political parties, student groups, and social organisations are expected to hold protests, marches, and demonstrations during the session days. Because of this, the administration decided to put preventive measures in place to avoid chaos near the Assembly complex.

Patna Sadar Sub-Divisional Magistrate Gaurav Kumar stated that Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita has been enforced in and around the Assembly area. He said this was necessary due to possible law and order challenges during the session.

According to the order, no unlawful gathering of five or more people will be allowed in the notified zone. All kinds of protests, rallies, processions, dharnas, and gheraos have been banned. Carrying weapons such as guns, knives, spears, explosives, axes, or any sharp tools is also strictly prohibited. The use of loudspeakers without official permission is not allowed.

The restricted area covers key locations around the Assembly, including Patna Zoo Gate Number 1, Nehru Path, Vishweshwaraiah Bhawan, R-Block roundabout, Kotwali T-Point, Chitkohra roundabout, Veterinary College, Buddha Marg, and the Patna GPO roundabout.

However, the restrictions will not apply to MLAs, MLCs, government officers, police and military personnel on duty, and staff working in the Assembly or Legislative Council. People with valid entry passes issued by the Assembly Secretariat and authorised vehicles will also be allowed.

Parents seek court stay on film about martyr son

NEW DELHI

The parents of Ashoka Chakra awardee Late Major Mohit Sharma have approached the Delhi High Court seeking a stay on the release of the upcoming film Dhurandhar. They allege that the movie has been made by "exploiting" the life and military service of their martyr son without their consent. The film is scheduled to release on December 5.

In their petition, 77-year-old Sushila Sharma and 75-year-old Rajendra Prasad Sharma said the trailer and promotions clearly link Ranveer Singh's character to Major Sharma, who lost his life during a counter-terror operation in Kupwara on March 21, 2009. Calling themselves "humble and grieving parents," they said they were shocked to find their son's life "used, portrayed and fictionalised" for commercial gain.

The plea argues that even if the filmmakers deny the connection, an ordinary viewer would easily identify the hero with Major Sharma based on the storyline, visual details and military background. The petition highlights concerns related to Article 21, posthumous dignity, biography rights, and the government's responsibility to prevent misuse of a national hero's story.

The petition names the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, CBFC, ADGPI, director Aditya Dhar and Jio Studios president Jyoti Deshpande as respondents. It demands that the film be withheld until the family views the unedited version and their concerns are addressed.

Bengal student credit card sanctions cross one lakh: Mamata

KOLKATA

The West Bengal government's student credit card scheme has crossed one lakh sanctioned cases, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said on Friday. She shared the news on social media and called it a big step for students who dream of higher studies but lack money support.

Under this scheme, students can take an education loan of up to ten lakh rupees at a very low simple interest rate of four percent per year. The state government pays the full interest subsidy, so students and their families do not have to worry about heavy extra costs. Mamata Banerjee said the programme will continue to help young talents in building their future.

The scheme started on June 30, 2021, soon after she became Chief Minister for the third time. It was one of her main election promises. The loan can be used for higher education in India or abroad. Many students from rural and poor backgrounds have applied, hoping to study engineering, medicine, management, and other professional courses.

However, the scheme has also faced some problems. The state government has accused several banks of delaying loan approvals. Officials have said that some banks even asked students for property or other guarantees, even though the state itself is acting as the guarantor. During meetings of the State Level Bankers' Committee, the finance department has raised this issue many times. They have urged banks to fully support the scheme and not trouble students with extra conditions.

Mamata Banerjee said the government is serious about making education reachable for all. She added that no deserving student should be forced to drop studies because of money problems.

The government has promised to monitor the banks closely and make sure the scheme runs smoothly. For many families, this credit card has become a hope for a better and secure future.

WOMEN EMPLOYMENT SCHEME

CM's Women Employment Scheme reaches thousands

PATNA

Under the Chief Minister's Women Employment Scheme, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar transferred Rs 10,000 each to the bank accounts of 10 lakh women on Friday. The funds were released through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) during a special programme at the Chief Minister's residence. Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary, senior officials, and department representatives were present at the event.

Officials said the beneficiaries include about 9.5 lakh rural women and 50,000 urban women. All are associated with Jeevika self-help groups and have previously received training and support to pursue self-employment and income-generating activities. The scheme has so far helped around 1.5 crore women, each receiving Rs 10,000 to strengthen financial independence and promote entrepreneurship.

The application process was conducted in two phases: rural women applied offline and online at Panchayat level, while urban women submitted online applications. Priority was given to women already engaged in Jeevika initiatives. The cash assistance is aimed at helping women start small businesses and actively participate in economic activities, fostering self-reliance and empowerment.

The scheme, announced on August 29, was launched formally by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 26, transferring the first instalment to 75 lakh women. The second instalment of Rs 10,000 each to 25 lakh women was released on October 3. Opposition leaders alleged that some cash transfers coincided with the Model Code of Conduct during the Bihar Assembly elections, raising concerns of potential voter influence.

Rahul Gandhi slams Centre over Delhi-NCR pollution crisis

Rahul Gandhi demanded urgent Parliament debate on air pollution, calling clean air a basic right with enforceable action

NEW DELHI

Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, on Friday strongly attacked the central government over rising pollution in Delhi-NCR. He said India's children are "choking in front of us" and questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's silence on the worsening air crisis.

In a post on X, Rahul Gandhi shared concerns raised by mothers during his interactions. He said many women told him their children are growing up breathing toxic air and falling sick more often. He added that parents are tired, scared and angry, as they see their children suffer every day.

Rahul Gandhi demanded an urgent debate in Parliament on air pollution and called for a strict and enforceable action plan. He said clean air should be treated as a basic right and not delayed with excuses or political distractions. He also shared a video where women from Delhi-NCR warned that long-term damage to health and the economy will happen if the problem is ignored.

Meanwhile, Delhi woke up to another day of toxic air. The city's Air Quality Index stood at 385, which falls in the "very poor" category. Pollution levels continue to remain dangerous for children, elderly people and those with breathing problems.

The situation worsened even after authorities recently lifted the Graded Response Action Plan Stage-III restrictions. On Thursday, the AQI climbed from 327 to 377 within just 24 hours. Officials said stricter curbs will be reintroduced only if AQI crosses 400, which is considered "severe". According to the Central Pollution Control Board, the pollution rose sharply due to low wind speed. AQI moved from 351 in the morning to 381 by evening, showing how fast dirty air gathered in the region.

QUICK READ

SC blocks Maharashtra from excess local reservations

New Delhi

The Supreme Court has stopped Maharashtra's State Election Commission from giving more than 50% reservation in local body elections where polls are yet to be announced. The court allowed elections already notified to go ahead but said results in areas exceeding the limit will depend on ongoing petitions challenging OBC quotas. Chief Justice Surya Kant directed SEC to complete elections for zila parishads, municipal corporations, and panchayat samitis without crossing 50%. Any delays in delimitation cannot postpone elections. The court has referred the case to a three-judge bench, with the next hearing set for January 21, 2026.

Odisha unveils new surrender policy for extremists

Bhubaneswar

Odisha has revamped its 'Surrender and Rehabilitation Scheme' for Left Wing Extremists (LWEs) following new Home Ministry guidelines. The plan aims to reintegrate Maoist cadres through financial aid, jobs, and skill training. Extremists are now categorized: top leaders get up to Rs 5 lakh, mid-level cadres Rs 2.5 lakh, with Rs 50,000 immediately and the rest in phased deposits. Weapon surrenders bring additional cash, and those with bounties receive the higher of the two amounts. Benefits include housing, marriage grants, skill courses, stipends, and ration support. Those returning to militancy face asset seizure under strict safeguards.

President Murmu emphasized self-reflection and spiritual awareness, urging people to pause, connect with their inner selves, and find true happiness in a calm, stable mind, not material wealth

Def Min Rajnath Singh outlines India's rising global defence

NEW DELHI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said India is emerging as a balanced and responsible global voice because of steady economic growth, strong technology, and clear foreign policy. He was speaking at the Chanakya Defence Dialogue held on the theme "Reform to Transform – Sashakt, Surakshit aur Viksit Bharat".

Singh said many countries in the Indo-Pacific and the Global South now see India as a reliable partner. He explained that India follows strategic independence, cultural values, and responsible diplomacy while dealing with the world.

He added that global trust in India comes from major defence and governance reforms and its firm stand on sovereignty and international rules. Talking about current world challenges, he pointed to terrorism, cross-border support to extremist groups, attempts to change borders by force, pressure at sea, and information warfare.

The Defence Minister said reforms are not just paperwork. They make institutions stronger, improve the speed and flexibility of the armed forces, and help the nation shape its own future. He explained that the government is working on better border roads, stronger maritime security, and modern weapons and technology for the forces.

He also spoke about reforms in defence procurement to make processes faster and more transparent. He said the Aatmanirbhar Bharat programme is building a strong defence industry in India, reducing foreign dependence and encouraging innovation by Indian companies.

Singh said resilience is as important as military power. He called the armed forces the strongest backbone of national strength. He added that India always believes in peace and dialogue, but it will never compromise on its sovereignty and the safety of its people.

Delhi HC cancels Lokpal action against Defence Secretary

NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Friday quashed Lokpal proceedings against Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh over alleged promotion irregularities at the National Productivity Council. The bench noted the complaint, filed in 2024, did not involve corruption or offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act. Earlier notices and orders issued by Lokpal were stayed, as Singh assumed the promotions occurred before his tenure. Senior advocates argued the Lokpal lacked jurisdiction since the matter involved procedural issues, not bribery or abuse of office. The court ruled the Lokpal acted without sufficient grounds, ending the proceedings and granting final relief to Singh.

Unity March fills Anand streets with patriotism

ANAND

On the third day of the national Unity March, thousands gathered in Anand district as the procession moved from Anklav through Hathipura, Umeta and nearby villages.

People lined both sides of the roads, showering flowers, waving flags and chanting patriotic slogans while the long line of marchers continued towards Sindhrot near Vadodara city.

Cries of Jai Jai Sardar and Vande Mataram echoed across the villages as youth groups shouted My Bharat and Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat with full energy and.

The atmosphere on the nearly thirteen kilometre route showed a mix of culture, devotion and pride, clearly reflecting the values shown by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel to all.

Union Ministers Mansukh Mandaviya, Sarbananda Sonowal and Ajay Tamta joined the march at Anklav along with NCC, NSS, scouts, guides and Yuva Bharat volunteers from across India.

The day started with a tree plantation at Smriti Van, sending a message of responsibility, nature care and unity before the long march began its journey ahead.

Minister Mandaviya said the march was planned to spread the message of national integration and to remind citizens about Sardar Patel's dream of Akhand Bharat for generations.

He added that Prime Minister Narendra Modi envisions an Aatmanirbhar and strong Bharat and such events help connect people emotionally with that national vision and purpose today. Villagers welcomed marchers with garba, songs and slogans, while community groups arranged water, buttermilk, sherbet and snacks showing warm Gujarat style hospitality and unity for all visitors.

As the march moved towards Sindhrot, it left behind memories of unity, cultural pride and a strong reminder of Sardar Patel's lasting role in uniting the nation.

Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam message grows stronger in crisis

LUCKNOW

President Droupadi Murmu said the ancient Indian idea of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, which means the world is one family, is more important today as the world faces many problems and divisions. She was speaking at the launch of Brahma Kumaris' theme for 2025–26, "Meditation for World Unity and Trust", held in Lucknow.

President Murmu emphasized self-reflection and spiritual awareness, urging people to pause, connect with their inner selves, and find true happiness in a calm, stable mind, not material wealth

The President said India's culture has always taught unity, compassion and togetherness. She explained that even though humanity is making fast progress in science, technology, artificial intelligence, digital systems and space research, people are becoming more stressed and lonely. She said modern growth has not brought peace inside the human mind.

According to her, people today have better education and more facilities than ever before. Still, fear, mistrust, insecurity and social distance are increasing across societies. She said this shows that outer progress alone is not enough. Inner peace and emotional balance are also needed.

President Murmu stressed the value of self reflection and spiritual awareness. She said people must learn to pause, think and connect with their inner self. She added that real happiness does not depend on money or material things, but comes from a calm and stable mind.

She said spiritual thinking helps develop compassion, equality, unity and respect for all. A peaceful mind, she explained, spreads positive energy into society and builds the base for global harmony. A strong inner spirit, she added, is essential for building trust among nations and communities.

The President also praised the work of the Brahma Kumaris organisation. She said they are doing good work in promoting world peace, human values, women's strength, spiritual growth, education and meditation. Their efforts, she said, help people live better and more meaningful lives.

Brahma Kumaris is a global spiritual organisation that focuses on personal change and world renewal through Rajyoga meditation.

The President expressed hope that their work will continue to guide society towards a more peaceful and united future.

She concluded that in today's divided world, the idea that the whole world is one family remains a powerful message for humanity.

LG Saxena urges IPS officers to serve people

NEW DELHI

Delhi Lieutenant Governor V.K. Saxena on Friday met Indian Police Service probationers of the 2023 and 2024 batches at Raj Niwas, urging them to use their training, knowledge, and skills for genuine public service rather than personal publicity, with good governance as their primary focus. During the interaction, probationers shared experiences from training with specialised agencies across multiple states. Saxena praised their energy and commitment, emphasizing that honesty, sincerity, and dedication should guide their careers, and warned against distractions from fame or self-promotion, stressing service to citizens with humility.

The meeting followed senior official P.K. Mishra's address at the UPSC Shatabdi Sammelan, where he noted that civil servants are now expected to drive meaningful change rather than minor improvements.

Mishra highlighted the importance of cross-sector collaboration, humility, and integrity, while addressing challenges such as technological growth, urbanisation, climate change, and disasters. He stressed a shift from process-based work to results-oriented governance and citizen partnership.

India US deal boosts navy helicopter readiness

NEW DELHI

India has signed a Rs 7,995 crore agreement with the United States to provide long term sustainment support for the Indian Navy's MH-60R helicopters. The deal was signed on Friday under the US Foreign Military Sales programme in the presence of Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh. The five year support package includes supply of spare parts, special tools, support equipment, technical help, training, repair services, and regular replenishment of key components. It will also help set up intermediate level repair and maintenance facilities inside India.

The government said building these facilities in the country will reduce dependence on foreign support and strengthen India's own defence capability. This move supports the Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision and will create new chances for Indian MSMEs and private firms to take part in defence manufacturing and services.

According to the Defence Ministry, this sustainment support will improve the availability and performance of the advanced MH-60R helicopters. These all weather helicopters are mainly used for anti submarine warfare and anti surface warfare, along with other naval roles.

The support will also allow the Navy to operate the helicopters from different bases, remote locations, and warships with better efficiency. This will help maintain high readiness during critical missions at sea.

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POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of **Manappuram Home Finance Ltd ("MAHOFIN")** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest *[Act],2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 9 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a **Demand Notice** calling upon the borrowers and co-borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice and Interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Symbolic possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said *[Act] read with rule 9 of the said rules. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Manappuram Home Finance Ltd as mentioned below for each of the respective properties:

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower and Co-borrower/ Loan account number/ Branch	Description of Secured Asset in respect of which Interest has been created	Date of Demand Notice sent & Outstanding Amount	Date of possession
1	Deevindrppa Bandeppa Harijan, Devakka Harijan, Fakkiravva Devendrappa Harijan & Nagesh Bhimappa Harijan / **NHL00260035505 & NVAP0026035504**/HUBLI	Property No:151400102500500867 SR No:575, total measuring 56.10 sq mtr, at: Soratur Village, Tq:Gadag and Dist:Gadag, Gadag, P.O SORTUR, GADAG, KARNATAKA, Pin: 582120	19-04-2025 & Rs. 3,20,041/-	24-11-2025
2	Hasina Banu, Mansur H & Muskan M / **MHL00510013876** / SHIMOGA	E Property no: 151200504200220097, property no : 313, Total 148.64 Sq Mtr., Including 74.32 Sq. Mtr. Building, Situated at Govinakovi village & grama panchayath nyamthi taluk Davanagere dist, DAVANAGARE, P.O GOVINAKOVI, DAVANAGARE, KARNATAKA, Pin: 577230	01-03-2025 & Rs. 4,37,544/-	25-11-2025
3	Usha S, Mahadeva C & Renuka J / **MHL00340028467 & NVAP0034028466** / MYSORE	Property no-112, H Block, Unique no-152100700700103055, total 55.70 Sq Meter, Situated at Belagola village & Gp, Srirangapatna taluk & Madya District., Mysuru, P.O belagola, MANDYA, KARNATAKA, Pin: 571606	18-02-2025 & Rs. 3,59,837/-	22-11-2025

Date: 29/11/2025 | Place: KARNATAKA **Sd/- Authorized Officer Manappuram Home Finance Ltd**

WARSHIP DIPLOMACY DISPLAY

Vikrant Udaygiri mark maiden overseas naval deployment

NEW DELHI

India's first locally built aircraft carrier INS Vikrant and the new stealth frigate INS Udaygiri are making their maiden overseas deployment at Sri Lanka's International Fleet Review 2025 in Colombo. The event is being hosted by the Sri Lanka Navy from November twenty seven to twenty nine as part of its seventy fifth anniversary celebrations.

Naval ships and delegations from many countries have arrived, showing strong regional cooperation and growing ties among Indian Ocean nations. This historic visit highlights India's focus on peace, security, and teamwork in the Indian Ocean region through regular engagement with friendly navies.

INS Vikrant, the pride of the nation, symbolises India's growing self reliance in defence manufacturing and advanced warship construction technology. INS Udaygiri also reflects this progress, showcasing modern stealth features and strong combat abilities developed through Indian shipyards and local industries. During their stay, the ships will take part in parades, professional exchanges, and community outreach programmes connecting sailors with local residents.

They will also open their decks to visitors, allowing people to see India's naval strength and technology up close. This visit follows the recent Exercise Mitra Shakti between the Indian and Sri Lankan armies, held in Karnataka from November ten to twenty three. The joint exercise included troops from the Rajput Regiment and Gajaba Regiment, along with air force support from both nations.

Later, both sides held army talks in Bodhgaya and agreed to improve training, coordination, and future defence cooperation. The fleet review and these joint efforts clearly show the strong friendship and shared commitment of India and Sri Lanka towards regional peace and stability for years ahead always.

QUICK READ

INS Vikrant, INS Udaygiri mark maiden overseas deployment

Colombo
India's first indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant, along with the latest indigenous stealth frigate INS Udaygiri, is representing the Indian Navy at the International Fleet Review (IFR) 2025 being hosted by the Sri Lanka Navy in Colombo from November 27-29. The event is part of the Sri Lanka Navy's 75th anniversary celebrations and features participation from naval ships, delegations and observers from several countries. This visit marks the maiden overseas deployment of both ships and underscores India's commitment to strengthening regional maritime cooperation.

Imran Khan's sister files plea against jail superintendent

Islamabad
Former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's sister Aleema Khan has filed a contempt of court petition against the Adiala jail superintendent and others over their failure in following an Islamabad High Court (IHC) order that directed a twice-a-week meeting schedule for Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder, local media reported on Friday. Aleema Khan filed the petition after Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Sohail Afridi, along with several other PTI members, held an overnight sit-in outside Adiala Jail in Rawalpindi, where Imran Khan has been incarcerated since 2023, Pakistan's leading daily Dawn reported on Friday.

One dead in western Sydney shooting

Sydney
A man has died after being shot multiple times on a street in western Sydney on Friday. Police in the Australian State of New South Wales (NSW) said in a statement that officers were deployed to reports of a public place shooting on a residential street in Blacktown, 30 kilometres west of central Sydney, around 11:50 am on Friday. Officers arrived and found a man with gunshot wounds to his neck, chest and leg. He was treated by ambulance paramedics, but died at the scene.

INS Sahyadri in Manila After PASSEX With Philippine Navy

India and the Philippines deepened maritime cooperation as INS Sahyadri reached Manila following joint naval drills in regional waters

MANILA

In a major boost to India–Philippines maritime ties, Indian Naval Ship (INS) Sahyadri arrived in Manila to a warm reception after completing a successful Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with the Philippine Navy. The ship's arrival marks another step in strengthening operational cooperation and strategic engagement between the two Indo-Pacific partners.

According to a post by the Embassy of India in the Philippines on X, the harbour phase will involve a series of professional interactions. A warm welcome to INS Sahyadri on her arrival in Manila! Following a successful Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with the Philippine Navy, this harbour visit will feature professionally enriching interactions and engagements with the Philippine Navy and Coast Guard on issues of mutual interest, deepening our maritime cooperation and enduring friendship, the Embassy stated.

INS Sahyadri, an indigenously designed and built Guided Missile Stealth Frigate, stands as a testament to India's Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision. During the PASSEX, the Indian and Philippine navies conducted a range of maritime drills, including tactical communication exercises, navigation manoeuvres, Visit Board Search and Seizure (VBSS) operations and flying drills, enhancing interoperability and mutual understanding.

The harbour phase of the visit will also include cross-deck tours and Subject Matter Expert Exchanges, aimed at sharing best practices and elevating professional synergy between the two forces. Beyond operational engagements, the crew will take part in cultural activities such as friendly sporting events, joint yoga sessions and community outreach, including assistance to a local orphanage.

INS Sahyadri is currently on an operational deployment in the Indo-Pacific, participating in several high-profile multilateral and bilateral exercises such as MALABAR-2025, AUSINDEX-2025, JAIMEX-25 and a maiden bilateral drill with the Republic of Korea Navy. The deployment reflects India's continued commitment to regional security, cooperation and a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific.

Israeli raid in southern Syria leaves at least 13 dead, says Damascus

Syrian officials accuse Israel of a massacre as tensions surge across regional fronts.

DAMASCUS

At least 13 people were killed on Friday after Israeli forces raided the southern Syrian village of Beit Jin and opened fire when confronted by residents, Syrian officials said, as Israel continues to engage multiple fronts even as a fragile ceasefire in Gaza inches forward.

Syria's Foreign Ministry condemned the operation as "a horrific massacre," claiming women and children were among the dead. State news agency SANA reported that Israeli troops entered Beit Jin to detain local men, triggering heavy gunfire when villagers resisted. The clashes forced dozens of families to flee.

The Israeli military, however, said it launched the raid based on intelligence to apprehend members of Jamaa Islamiya, accused of planning attacks on Israeli civilians. According to the army, militants opened fire during the operation, wounding six Israeli soldiers who were evacuated for treatment. Troops returned fire and provided aerial support, killing several militants and detaining all suspects, the military added.

Israel has viewed Syria's new authorities with caution since the collapse of Bashar Assad's government in December 2024. Israeli forces have since taken control of the former U.N.-patrolled buffer zone established under a 1974 disengagement agreement and carried out hundreds of airstrikes on Syrian military sites.

Friday's deaths drew fresh condemnation from Damascus, which urged the international community to act against what it called repeated violations of sovereignty. A local official told The Associated Press that all of the dead were civilians, including one man who had celebrated his wedding just a day earlier.

The incident comes amid intensified Israeli strikes in southern Lebanon and growing fears that renewed violence could destabilize the already fragile truce in Gaza.

A devastating fire in Hong Kong's Wang Fuk Court has killed over a hundred residents, with many more still unaccounted for

Hong Kong Residential Complex Fire Death Toll Rises to 128

HONG KONG

Hong Kong Chief Executive John Lee said that the fire had gradually been brought under control thanks to the relentless efforts of firefighters. He noted that about 279 people remain missing, while 29 are hospitalised.

The death toll from the massive fire that engulfed a residential complex in Hong Kong has climbed to 128, with authorities warning that the number may rise further. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government confirmed the figures on Friday as search and rescue operations continued through challenging conditions.

The Fire Services Department (FSD) has deployed 304 fire engines and rescue vehicles, using drones to monitor hotspots and prevent the fire from reigniting. Firefighters have extinguished flames in four of the affected buildings and brought the blaze under control in the remaining three.

Wang Fuk Court, the residential area struck by the fire, consists of eight buildings. All were covered in green mesh and surrounded by scaffolding due to an ongoing major renovation project—a factor now at the centre of the police investigation. Three renovation contractors have been arrested on suspicion of manslaughter after investigators pointed to flammable materials used on the buildings as a likely cause of the fire's rapid spread. Authorities say it is one of the worst blazes Hong Kong has witnessed in decades.

Hong Kong Chief Executive John Lee said that the fire had gradually been brought under control thanks to the relentless efforts of firefighters. He noted that about 279 people remain missing, while 29 are hospitalised, including seven in critical condition. Lee expressed deep sorrow over the tragedy and said the government was mobilising all available resources to support rescue operations.

He emphasised that emergency teams are working on multiple fronts—extinguishing remaining fire pockets, rescuing trapped residents, treating the injured, offering psychological and material support to affected families and carrying out a full investigation into the accident.

Rights group reports fresh enforced disappearances

QUETTA

Another two Baloch youth were forcibly disappeared by Pakistani forces in Balochistan, amid a growing wave of enforced disappearances across the province, a leading human rights organisation said on Friday. Human rights body Baloch Voice for Justice (BVJ) mentioned that Pakistan's Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) personnel detained two young brothers, Sata Deen Bugti and Fazal Deen Bugti, from the Matt area of Sui in Dera Bugti district. According to the family, both were taken into custody during a raid and then moved to an unknown location.

The family stated that they have no information about the condition or location of the two brothers. They fear for their safety and have urged rights groups to highlight the case. The sudden detention has created serious distress for the family, the BVJ mentioned. The rights body condemned the incident and called for the immediate release of Sata Deen Bugti and Fazal Deen Bugti. It stressed that the ongoing pattern of enforced disappearances demands urgent attention from international human rights bodies. According to the BYC, 26-year-old Muhammad Allam, a resident of the Grisha region in Khuzdar district, was shot dead by Pakistan-backed armed groups.

25 injured as BNP, Jamaat workers clash in B'desh

DHAKA

At least 25 people were injured in Bangladesh after a violent clash erupted between workers of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and the Islamist party Jamaat-e-Islami during electoral outreach in the Pabna district, according to local media reports.

The violence erupted on Char Gargari village of Sahapur Union in Pabna, with both sides blaming each other for the attack. Seven of those injured were taken to the Ishwardi Upazila Health Complex, while the others received primary treatment at various private clinics.

Confirming the incident, Ishwardi Police Station's Officer-in-Charge (OC), ASM Abdun Nur, said that they arrived at the scene after receiving the information and attempted to bring the situation under control.

Citing local residents and eyewitnesses, Bangladesh's Bengali daily Prothom Alo reported that when Jamaat's candidate Abu Taleb Mondal went to the area for campaign outreach, he was obstructed by supporters of the BNP candidate.

After a brief exchange of heated words and scuffles, Mondal left, but another clash broke out on his way back, during which several shots were reportedly fired, and several motorcycles, along with his vehicle, were vandalised.

According to Jamaat candidate Mondal, he and the party workers had visited the village as part of their pre-scheduled campaign programme, accompanied by around 150 motorcycles. He alleged that on their way back, supporters of BNP candidate Habibur Rahman attacked them and opened fire, vandalising several motorcycles. Mondal claimed that at least 50 of their supporters were injured, including six who suffered gunshot wounds.

SU DO KU

Brain-Bender: Can You Solve It?

4		7	9		6	1		5
	1		4		2		8	
6	2				3		4	7
		3		2		7		4
1	5		7	3				
2		4		9	1	6		3
9	6		5	1		4		8
	4	1		6		5		9
	8		3		9		6	

4	3	2	6	1	9	5	8	7
7	1	5	3	8	2	4	6	9
8	9	6	7	4	5	2	1	3
2	7	1	4	3	6	8	9	5
9	6	3	1	5	8	7	4	2
5	8	4	9	2	7	1	3	6
3	2	9	8	7	4	6	5	1
6	5	8	2	9	1	3	7	4
1	4	7	5	6	3	9	2	8

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

Fill a 9×9 grid with numbers so that each row, column and 3×3 section contain all of the digits between 1 and 9.

Prez Donald Trump announces plan to halt migration

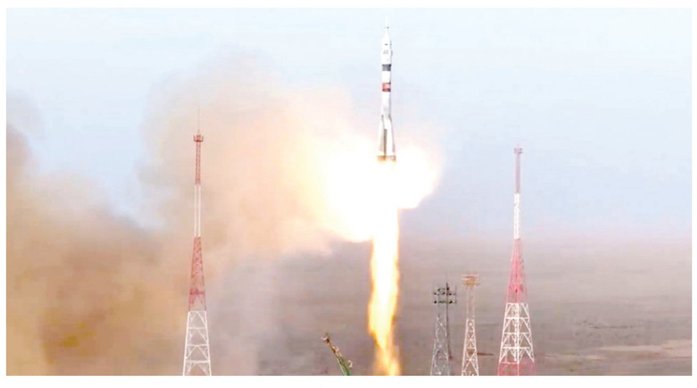
NEW DELHI

Days after an Afghan national allegedly opened fire at two National Guard members near the White House, US President Donald Trump has announced a sweeping immigration decision, stating he intends to permanently pause migration from all Third World countries. The proposed move, if implemented, could significantly affect millions seeking entry into the US for education, work, safety or asylum, and may reshape global migration patterns. In a sharply-worded post on Truth Social, President Trump stated that while the US has advanced technologically, immigration policies over the years have weakened the country's progress and impacted living standards.

BAIKONUR LAUNCH THREAT

Baikonur Launch Pad Damage Threatens Russia's Missions

MOSCOW



Russia's human spaceflight program faces a significant setback after a key launch pad at the Baikonur Cosmodrome suffered extensive damage during the November 27 launch of the Soyuz MS-28 mission to the International Space Station (ISS). The incident has prompted serious concerns that Moscow may be temporarily grounded from conducting crewed spaceflights for the first time in decades.

The Soyuz MS-28 spacecraft, carrying two Russian cosmonauts and one NASA astronaut, lifted off and docked with the ISS without issue. However, ground assessments revealed a critical failure: a movable service cabin—an essential crew access structure—collapsed into the exhaust trench beneath the launch pad during liftoff. This cabin is vital not only for crewed Soyuz missions but also for Progress cargo launches, making its damage a direct threat to the continuity of Russia's space operations.

Baikonur remains Russia's only functioning site capable of sending humans into orbit, and the damage has sparked alarm among space analysts. Roscosmos confirmed the destruction of multiple components of the launch infrastructure, stating that repair efforts are already underway and that spare parts are available. However, experts warn that depending on the structural impact and mandatory safety reviews, the repair timeline could range from several months to as long as two years.

Such a prolonged delay would effectively paralyze Moscow's ability to conduct crewed flights, marking an unprecedented disruption for a facility that has been in continuous use since the 1960s. Upcoming Soyuz and Progress missions may now face indefinite postponements, forcing Russia to consider accelerating development at the Vostochny Cosmodrome or seeking temporary international arrangements to maintain access to low-Earth orbit. Roscosmos confirmed that the Soyuz MS-28 crew currently aboard the ISS is safe.

QUICK READ

Third-party security breach impacts data of some CoinDCX users

New Delhi

Crypto exchange CoinDCX has revealed that in a recent security breach at Mixpanel, the third-party service provider to the company, data of some of its users was impacted. Disclosing the fact to its users through an email, the crypto exchange clarified that the breach had not directly impacted CoinDCX's infrastructure and that the funds of its users were safe. On November 25, Mixpanel, a US-based company, informed CoinDCX that some of its data had been compromised following a security incident. Following this, the Crypto exchange platform communicated to its users.

GST boost fuels AC sales spike during festive season

New Delhi

Room air conditioners saw a sharp surge in demand during the festive season, aided by deferred purchases following GST rate cuts, a new report said on Friday. However, the data compiled by BNP Paribas India highlighted that overall demand expected to remain flat in the near term. Lighting saw healthy improvement in demand over the past few months with continued traction for the premium segment, the report said. Demand for cables remained strong, while wires demand has picked up with the resumption in construction activities post an extended monsoon, it noted.

India's PE and VC investments up 9 pc to $5.3 billion in Oct

New Delhi

Private equity and venture capital investments in India touched $5.3 billion in October 2025 up 9 per cent month-on-month, driven by a tenfold surge in private investments in public equity (PIPE), a report said on Friday. Sector wise the strong activity in financial services that recorded $2.9 billion drove the surge followed by e-commerce at $715 million, the joint report from Ernst & Young (EY) and Indian Venture and Alternate Capital Association (IVCA) said. In October, PIPE deals were the highest for $2.1 billion, up 981 per cent year-on-year, while start-up investments followed with a total of $2 billion posting a 175 per cent increase on-year.

India Expands Global Energy Footprint to 40 Nations: Puri

NEW DELHI

Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Friday announced that India's global energy footprint has expanded substantially in the past ten years, increasing its partner nations from 27 to 40. He credited this growth to strengthened energy diplomacy and a more secure sourcing network built under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Puri highlighted that India's widening global engagement is the result of conscious diversification across continents and the formation of trusted alliances. According to him, this broader strategy has enabled the country to refine its sourcing basket and build a stable supply chain. Bharat's global energy footprint is expanding with purpose. From 27 partner countries a decade ago to 40 today, India has built a stronger and more secure energy network under PM Narendra Modi, Puri wrote on social media platform X.

He explained that this strategic global outreach aligns with India's ambition to emerge as a major global refining and energy hub. This vision, he noted, is being supported by rapid capacity expansion and significant policy reforms initiated since 2014. A broader sourcing basket, growing refining strength and trusted global partnerships are powering a more resilient future for Bharat, Puri added.

The minister also pointed out earlier this year that India's refining capacity has already touched approximately 258 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA). This is expected to increase to nearly 310 MMTPA by 2030, with long-term projections indicating a rise to 400–450 MMTPA. Such progress, he said, positions India among the world's top refining hubs, particularly at a time when close to 20 per cent of global refining capacity may face potential shutdowns by 2035.

Even amid sluggish global growth in the energy sector, India remains a major contributor to global demand. Projections indicate that the nation may account for 30–33 per cent of incremental global energy consumption in the coming decades.

S.Korea Unveils $280 bn Plan to Accelerate Battery Technologies

SEOUL

South Korea will invest heavily in advanced battery technologies to strengthen global competitiveness and reduce reliance on foreign suppliers

The South Korean government announced on Friday that it will invest 280 billion won ($191 million) over the next four years to accelerate the development of next-generation battery technologies, including all-solid-state, lithium metal and lithium sulfur batteries. The initiative, revealed during the national advanced industry committee meeting chaired by Prime Minister Kim Min-seok, aims to solidify the country's leadership in the rapidly evolving secondary battery industry, Yonhap news agency reported.

According to the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources, the strategic investment comes at a crucial time as the global electric vehicle (EV) market undergoes major shifts and China strengthens its influence in the battery sector. The ministry emphasized that the secondary battery industry is central to achieving carbon neutrality and advancing future mobility, making innovation essential for maintaining Korea's competitive edge.

As part of the plan, the government will prepare a 10-year roadmap to guide the industry's transition toward technology-driven competitiveness rather than price-based competition. The roadmap will focus on enhancing the domestic industrial ecosystem by supporting battery material development and maintaining Korea's production base through measures aimed at stimulating demand for EVs and energy storage systems.

In line with this objective, the government will introduce support programs to help companies commercialize next-generation battery materials and develop new standard-type batteries with higher performance than existing lithium iron phosphate (LFP) models. Officials said these advancements will play a key role in ensuring long-term industry growth.

Another major component of the plan involves reducing the nation's heavy dependence on China for critical minerals and key battery materials. To achieve this, Seoul will identify priority countries for critical minerals cooperation and craft tailored strategies for each. Additionally, 100 billion won will be allocated to a supply chain stabilization fund, alongside expanded low-interest loan programs for firms investing in critical minerals.

SCBs post 1.4 pc surge in net profit in Q2FY26 led by PSBs

NEW DELHI

The net profit of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) grew marginally by 1.4 per cent year-on-year in Q2FY26, with gains driven by fee income, reduced provisions, and controlled operating expenses, even as margins compressed, a report said on Friday.

Net profit of SCBs grew 2.5 per cent sequentially to Rs 0.94 lakh crore in Q2FY26. Public sector banks (PSBs) recorded a 4.7 per cent year-on-year rise in net profit to Rs 0.50 lakh crore, while private sector banks (PVBs) saw profits fall 2.1 per cent to Rs 0.44 lakh crore, the report from CareEdge Ratings said.

The rise in PSB profits is mainly attributed to fee income and treasury gains, alongside credit growth in the retail and MSME segments, and normalised operating expenses.

Further, the inclusion of recent stake-sale effects would lift large PSBs' profits by 8.9 per cent YoY. PVBs faced slower corporate loan demand, flat growth in interest income, continued stress in the microfinance and unsecured segments, and increased provisions.

If a one-off regulatory provision is included, net profit for PVBs would have declined by an additional 4 per cent YoY.

Return on assets for SCBs stood at an annualised 1.29 per cent in Q2FY26, down 11 basis points year-on-year, attributed to margin pressures due to rate cuts.

Sequentially, it grew by one bps, attributed to slightly increased margins of PSBs in the current quarter, business growth, and overall improvement in the asset quality.

South Korea's financial watchdog has issued major penalties to banks over mis-sold investment products tied to Hong Kong's H Index

S.Korea Fines Five Banks $2 Trillion for Mis-Selling Hong Kong-Linked ELS Products

SEOUL

Five major South Korean banks have been notified of penalties totalling around 2 trillion won ($1.37 billion) for mis-selling equity-linked securities (ELS) products linked to Hong Kong's H Index, informed industry sources said on Friday. The Financial Supervisory Service (FSS) issued the penalty notices to KB Kookmin Bank, Shinhan Bank, Hana Bank, NH Nonghyup and SC Korea, all of which have already incurred significant losses after compensating affected customers. The Financial Services Commission (FSC) will finalise the sanctions at a later stage, according to sources cited by Yonhap news agency.

The FSS revealed that banks and brokerages sold a combined 19.3 trillion won worth of Hong Kong-linked ELS products since 2021. These hybrid securities offer returns based on the performance of underlying equities, including major stock indices. However, in early 2024, thousands of investors suffered steep losses when Hong Kong's H Index plunged sharply. Regulators later determined that the banks had failed to properly inform customers about product risks, contract conditions and other critical details, prompting an order to partially compensate investors.

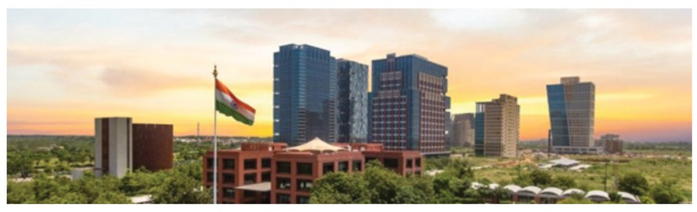
Among the penalised institutions, KB Kookmin Bank was the largest seller of the affected ELS products, recording sales of 8.2 trillion won. Shinhan Bank followed with 2.37 trillion won, NH Nonghyup with 2.13 trillion won and Hana Bank with 2.11 trillion won. Collectively, the banking sector paid out 1.4 trillion won in compensation to customers last year alone.

In response to the incident, the FSS announced plans to strengthen consumer protection measures in the financial sector. The watchdog will soon issue updated guidelines to ensure investment products are easier for consumers to understand, particularly regarding risk exposure. These measures were outlined during a debate session in Seoul that included lawmakers, industry experts and civic groups.

FSS Governor Lee Chan-jin said the mis-selling scandal surrounding Hong Kong-tied ELS products had revealed significant flaws in the country's consumer protection framework. He stressed that the regulator is committed to preventing similar incidents through stricter oversight and clearer safeguards for financial consumers.

GIFT City poised to anchor India's vision of Viksit Bharat at 2047

AHMEDABAD



Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City), India's first International Financial Services Centre (IFSC), has rapidly evolved into India's premier international financial and IT hub, blending global standards with smart infrastructure, an official statement said on Friday.

With more than 1,034 registered entities in GIFT IFSC, the hub hosts 38 banks with an asset base of $100.14 billion.

It spans nearly 1,000 acres, expanding to more than 3,300 acres with SEZ and DTA zones, offering a 10-year income tax exemption within a 15-year block for IFSC units, according to official data.

The government has designated GIFT City as a Multi-Services Special Economic Zone (GIFT SEZ). Its governance rests on the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), backed by strong government oversight and policy support.

Its institutional framework is designed to attract global capital, foster innovation, and uphold international standards of transparency and sustainability. The IFSC unit is treated as a non-resident under the extant Foreign Exchange Management regulations.

IFSCA was established under the IFSCA Act, 2019, and has been operational since April 2020. It functions as a unified regulator for financial products, services, and institutions in GIFT IFSC.

It consolidates powers earlier divided among RBI, SEBI, IRDAI, and PFRDA for IFSC operations and has a mandate to develop and regulate financial services, promote ease of doing business, and align GIFT City with global standards. The India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX) was launched in July 2022 at GIFT IFSC, Gandhinagar, promoted by leading institutions such as NSE, INDIA INX, NSDL, CDSL, and MCX, and is regulated by IFSCA. t provides a gateway for bullion imports into India while offering a world-class ecosystem for trading, investment in bullion financial products, and vaulting facilities.

The exchange ensures responsible and transparent bullion trade by adhering to OECD due diligence guidelines for supply chain integrity from conflict-affected and high-risk areas.

Govt opens entry for private entities to speed up coal exploration

NEW DELHI

In another important reform aimed at speeding up the exploration and operationalisation of coal mines, the government has issued a notification to allow private entities accredited by the Quality Council of India (QCI) to carry out prospecting operations for the exploration of coal and lignite, according to an official statement issued on Friday. This adds another 18 agencies for carrying out prospecting operations for the exploration of coal and lignite, enabling the coal blocks allottees to have more flexibility and choice towards engaging these agencies for accelerating the exploration of coal and lignite, the statement explained.

Exploration and preparation of geological report is a prerequisite for operationalisation of the coal mine. The addition of these exploration agencies will result in saving of around 6 months' time, which was earlier required for obtaining of prospecting license by the agency, the statement said.

In exercise of the powers under the second proviso to sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, private entities duly accredited by the Quality Council of India – National Accreditation Board for Education and Training (QCI NABET) have been notified on 26th November 2025, as notified Accredited Prospecting Agencies, the statement noted.

By expanding the pool of authorised prospecting agencies, the government aims to harness private sector resources, promote efficiency, competitiveness, and technological innovation in the exploration ecosystem.

This step is expected to significantly accelerate the pace of exploration and enable early enhancement of mining contributing to faster resource development and enhance coal and lignite availability for the country, contributing enhanced availability of coal and lignite to meet the nation's growing energy needs.

ICAI Sets Guinness World Record for Career Advice

NEW DELHI

Chartered accountants' apex body ICAI on Friday said it has set a Guinness World Record for conducting the largest career advice programme session in a single day in Mumbai that saw participation of more than 7,400 students and other individuals.

The 'Career in Accounting and Finance for Youth (CAFY 4.0) & Super Mega Career Counselling Programme' was held on Thursday and pan-India, the number of total participants was more than 1.3 lakh.

The event in Mumbai saw the "gathering with more than 7,400 students, teachers, principals and others participating in the event. The eligible record count achieved, 6,166 students which build the record-breaking title of the 'Largest careers advice lesson'," ICAI said in a release.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) said career counselling was offered for different streams, including humanities, science and commerce.

"Achieving a Guinness World Record for the largest career advice lesson is a proud moment that shows how deeply ICAI values guiding young minds. Reaching over 6,166 students in one session has helped them make informed choices and opened doors to opportunities beyond borders," ICAI President Charanjot Singh Nanda said.

INDIA TRADE TALKS

India Engaged in Trade Talks With Nearly 50 Nations: Goyal

NEW DELHI

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal announced on Friday that India is currently in active discussions on trade agreements with 14 countries or blocs representing nearly 50 nations. These include the United States, the European Union, GCC countries, New Zealand, Israel, Eurasia, Canada, South Africa and the Mercosur group. The minister was addressing the annual general meeting of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

Goyal highlighted that India has already concluded balanced and equitable trade agreements with Australia, the UAE, Mauritius, the United Kingdom and the four-nation EFTA bloc. He said the global landscape today is shaped by significant geopolitical and economic challenges, which in turn have emphasised the importance of trusted partnerships and durable supply chains. India's expanding network of free trade agreements (FTAs), he noted, is designed to foster long-term cooperation built on transparency, fairness and mutual benefit.

Emphasising India's cultural and economic philosophy, Goyal said that self-reliance has deep roots in the country's civilisational ethos. He referred to teachings in the Bhagavad Gita and Mahatma Gandhi's advocacy for Swadeshi, noting that these principles have historically guided India's development journey. He added that this legacy continues to shape modern policy through the Atmanirbhar Bharat vision under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

Discussing the recent FTA with the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), Goyal pointed out that the bloc has committed to invest $100 billion in India, particularly in innovation and precision manufacturing. He underscored India's strong competitive advantage in research and innovation, stating that world-class innovation can be carried out in India at a fraction of Europe's or America's costs.

Goyal reiterated that India's trade strategy is centred on fairness, sustainability and inclusivity, positioning the nation as a reliable partner in global commerce while strengthening domestic capabilities.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS and Addressing the Global Mental Health Crisis

In recent years, the world has increasingly recognized mental health as a critical component of overall well-being. Yet, despite this growing awareness, the global mental health crisis continues to intensify. Millions of people across countries, cultures, and age groups struggle with psychological conditions that often remain untreated, misunderstood, or stigmatized. As societies grapple with economic strain, rapid technological change, climate anxiety, and the aftermath of pandemics, mental health challenges have become both more visible and more urgent. Addressing this crisis requires sustained awareness, effective policy action, community involvement, and a commitment to breaking long-standing taboos.

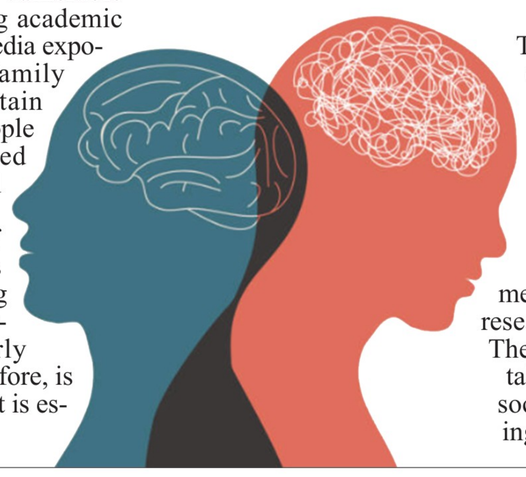
Understanding the Global Mental Health Burden

Mental health disorders are now among the leading causes of disability worldwide. Conditions such as depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, PTSD, and substance-use disorders affect nearly one in eight people globally. Yet, unlike many physical illnesses, mental health issues often remain hidden due to stigma, lack of awareness, or limited access to care.

The crisis is not distributed evenly. Low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) carry a disproportionately high burden, despite having the least resources. In many regions, there are fewer than one mental health professional for every 100,000 people. This shortage makes early diagnosis and consistent treatment nearly impossible for large segments of the population.

Children and adolescents represent another vulnerable group. With rising academic pressure, social media exposure, bullying, family stress, and uncertain futures, young people face unprecedented psychological strain. Suicide is tragically one of the leading causes of death among teenagers in several countries. Early intervention, therefore, is not just helpful—it is essential.

A Global Responsibility



The mental health crisis is not confined to any single region or demographic—it is a universal issue that requires global cooperation. International organizations, governments, private companies, and civil society must work collectively to strengthen mental health systems, promote research, and reduce inequalities. The goal is not just to treat mental illness, but to build resilient societies where mental well-being is prioritized and protected.

Technology, Social Media, and Modern Stressors

The digital age has brought both benefits and challenges for mental well-being. On one hand, technology has improved access to information, support groups, and teletherapy. On the other hand, social media can amplify loneliness, comparison, body-image issues, and cyberbullying. The constant stream of news—often negative—also contributes to stress and anxiety.

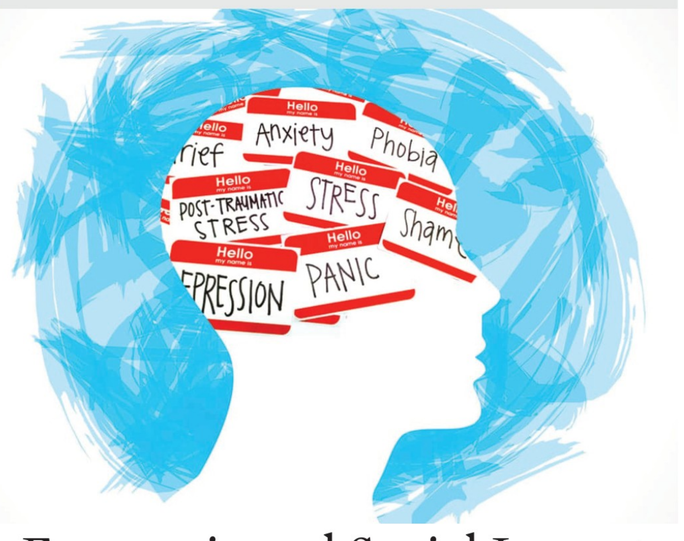
Moreover, the pressure of always being available, productive, and socially active online has blurred boundaries between personal and professional life. This leads to burnout, insomnia, and emotional exhaustion. As our lifestyles become more digitally driven, learning healthy digital habits becomes crucial.

The Role of Stigma and Cultural Barriers

One of the most persistent obstacles in addressing mental health issues is stigma. Misconceptions, stereotypes, and cultural biases often prevent individuals from seeking help. In many societies, mental illness is equated with weakness, a lack of discipline, or even supernatural causes. As a result, people conceal their struggles for fear of judgment, discrimination, or isolation.

Stigma also affects the way families, workplaces, and communities respond to psychological distress. Instead of encouraging professional help, many individuals are told to stay strong, focus on work, or get over it. This dismissive attitude can worsen symptoms, leading to untreated mental illnesses that escalate over time.

Breaking stigma requires open conversations, education, and representation. When public figures, leaders, and influencers speak honestly about mental health, they help normalize seeking help. Schools and workplaces must also create supportive environments where mental health is treated with the same seriousness as physical health.



Economic and Social Impact of Poor Mental Health

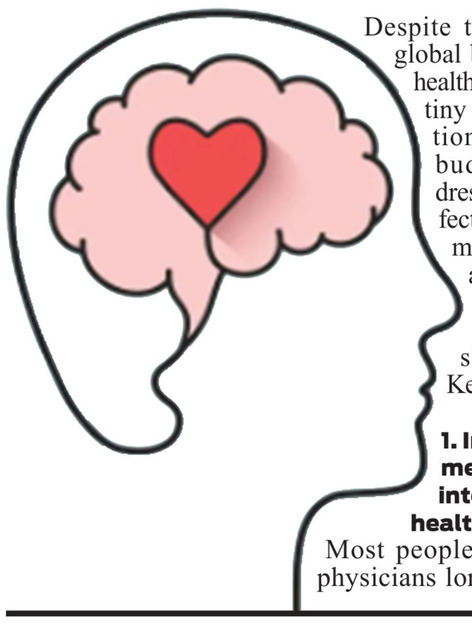
The consequences of mental health disorders extend far beyond individual suffering. Poor mental health affects productivity, relationships, and social cohesion. According to global health analyses, the economic cost of untreated mental illness is estimated in trillions of dollars annually due to lost productivity, absenteeism, healthcare expenses, and reduced quality of life.

For families, the emotional and financial strain can be overwhelming.

Caregiving responsibilities often fall disproportionately on women, deepening gender inequities.

Communities also suffer when people withdraw from jobs, education, or social roles due to untreated conditions. Thus, improving mental health is not just a personal issue—it is an economic and societal priority.

Improving Access to Mental Health Care



Despite the significant global burden, mental health receives only a tiny fraction of national healthcare budgets. To address this crisis effectively, countries must invest in accessible, affordable, and culturally sensitive services. Key steps include:

1. Integrating mental health into primary healthcare
Most people visit general physicians long before they see mental health specialists. Training primary care providers to screen for mental health symptoms can ensure early detection and reduce stigma.

2. Expanding telehealth and digital therapy
Telepsychiatry and online counseling have bridged gaps in many underserved regions. With proper regulation and quality assurance, digital tools can significantly widen access.

3. Increasing the mental health workforce
Governments and institutions must invest in training psychologists, counselors, social workers, and psychiatric nurses. Scholarships, awareness campaigns, and career incentives can attract more professionals to the field.

4. School-based mental health programs
Children spend a significant portion of their lives in educational settings. Schools can play a vital role by offering counseling, emotional-skills training, and early screening programs.

5. Community-led initiatives
Grassroots organizations, peer-support groups, and NGOs can provide localized, culturally relevant interventions—especially in regions where professional services are scarce.

Promoting Mental Health Awareness

Awareness is the foundation of any sustainable mental health strategy. It involves educating communities on symptoms, treatment options, coping strategies, and the importance of seeking help. Effective awareness campaigns use multiple channels—schools, workplaces, media, religious institutions, and social platforms—to reach diverse groups.

Creating safe spaces where people can share their experiences without fear of judgment is equally important. Storytelling, workshops, mental-health days, and community events encourage openness and reduce shame. Encouraging simple practices such as mindfulness, physical activity, journaling, or maintaining social connections also goes a long way in improving daily well-being.

Conclusion

The global mental health crisis is one of the most pressing challenges of our time. As awareness grows, so does the responsibility to take meaningful action. By breaking stigma, improving access to care, supporting vulnerable groups, and encouraging open dialogue, societies can move toward a future where mental health is treated with empathy, seriousness, and urgency. Every person—whether through listening, supporting, educating, or advocating—has a role in creating a world where mental well-being is not an afterthought, but a fundamental human right.

Understanding Digital Data Governance

Digital data governance refers to the framework of rules, processes, standards, and responsibilities that dictate how data is collected, stored, accessed, used, and eventually retired. It ensures that data remains accurate, secure, accessible to the right people, and compliant with legal and ethical requirements.

With businesses depending increasingly on cloud services, artificial intelligence, and automation, the need for strong data governance has never been greater. It is no longer just an IT function but a cross-functional, strategic necessity.

The core objectives of data governance include

1. **Data Quality:** Ensuring the data is accurate, consistent, and reliable for decision-making.
2. **Data Availability:** Providing timely and secure access to users who need it.
3. **Data Security and Privacy:** Protecting data from unauthorized access, misuse, or breaches.
4. **Compliance:** Meeting regulatory requirements such as GDPR, HIPAA, or India's DPDP Act.
5. **Accountability:** Assigning clear ownership and responsibility for data assets.

Rise of Cybersecurity Challenges in the Digital Age

As data environments grow more complex, cybersecurity risks multiply. Cyber attackers are more sophisticated, motivated, and well-equipped than ever before. For organizations, cyberattacks can lead to severe financial losses, regulatory penalties, reputational harm, and loss of customer trust. Therefore, cybersecurity must be tightly integrated with data governance practices.

Threats include

- Ransomware attacks that encrypt critical systems and demand payment.
- Phishing schemes that target employees through deceptive emails.
- Data breaches that expose sensitive personal or financial information.
- Insider threats, intentional or accidental.
- Cloud security vulnerabilities, especially with misconfigured settings.

Digital Data Governance and Cybersecurity Challenges

How Digital Data Governance and Cybersecurity Interconnect

While data governance ensures responsible management and compliance, cybersecurity provides the protective shield. Both systems complement each other in several ways:

1. Access Control and Identity Management
Data governance defines who should have access to what data, based on business roles and responsibilities. Cybersecurity enforces this through:

- Multi-factor authentication
- Role-based access control (RBAC)
- Privileged access management

Together, they minimize unauthorized access and insider threats.

2. Data Classification
Organizations must classify data based on sensitivity—public, internal, confidential, or highly confidential. Data governance establishes these categories, and cybersecurity assigns protection levels, such as:

- Encryption
- Tokenization
- Network segmentation

This ensures high-value data receives the highest level of defense.

In today's hyper-connected world, data has become one of the most valuable assets for individuals, companies, and governments. Whether it is customer information, financial transactions, intellectual property, or operational analytics, data fuels decision-making, innovation, and growth. However, as digital ecosystems expand, so do the risks. Managing data responsibly while safeguarding it from cyber threats has become a central challenge for modern organizations. This is where digital data governance and cybersecurity come together as critical pillars of sustainable digital transformation.

Key Challenges in Digital Data Governance

Despite its importance, organizations struggle with data governance due to several complexities:

1. Increasing Data Volume and Variety
With growing adoption of IoT devices, cloud applications, and social platforms, data is generated in enormous amounts and diverse formats. Managing this influx is difficult without automated governance tools.

2. Lack of Clear Ownership
Many companies fail to assign clear data owners or stewards, leading to confusion and inconsistent data practices. Without accountability, governance frameworks weaken.

3. Siloed Data Systems
Data often resides in multiple systems with limited integration. This leads to poor visibility, duplication, and inconsistent definitions—making governance harder.

4. Resistance to Cultural Change
Implementing governance requires employees to follow new procedures, which often meet resistance. Organizations must invest in training and communication to build a data-driven culture.

ICC warns members of revenue dip in next media rights cycle

ICC alert raises concern over a looming 30% cut in global cricket revenues

CHENNAI

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has cautioned its member boards to brace for a potential 30% reduction in revenue when the next media rights cycle begins in 2028, signalling a period of financial strain across the cricketing ecosystem. The warning surfaced through a recently published financial document, which cited the expected downturn and urged immediate planning to protect key programmes.

According to the document, the ICC communicated that members should prepare for the significant dip once existing broadcast deals expire. The board noted that such a decline would require swift measures to safeguard domestic structures and high-performance pathways. For many Full Members and virtually all Associate nations, ICC distributions form the backbone of operational budgets, funding everything from central contracts to grassroots development.

A 30% reduction, if realised, could have widespread implications. Player salaries, the ability to host Test matches, youth development schemes and domestic competitions may all face severe constraints. Smaller boards, which already operate on narrow margins, are expected to be the hardest hit. The KNCB has outlined plans to reduce its long-term reliance on ICC funds by attracting private partnerships and securing event-specific sponsors, particularly ahead of next year's Men's T20 World Cup.

Their qualification for the tournament in India has offered a timely financial boost. However, the broader global picture remains uncertain. One key reason behind the anticipated revenue drop is the merger between Disney Star and Jio, two major bidders in India's lucrative sports broadcast market. With reduced competition, the aggressive bidding wars that previously inflated ICC media rights valuations may no longer materialise, potentially reshaping cricket's financial landscape for years to come.

CUMMINS RULED OUT OF PINK-BALL TEST AS AUSTRALIA STICK TO SAME SQUAD

Australia will head into the second Ashes Test in Brisbane without captain Pat Cummins, who has been ruled out of the day-night encounter as he continues his recovery from a back niggle. Despite the setback, the selectors have opted for continuity, naming an unchanged 14-member squad for the match beginning December 4.

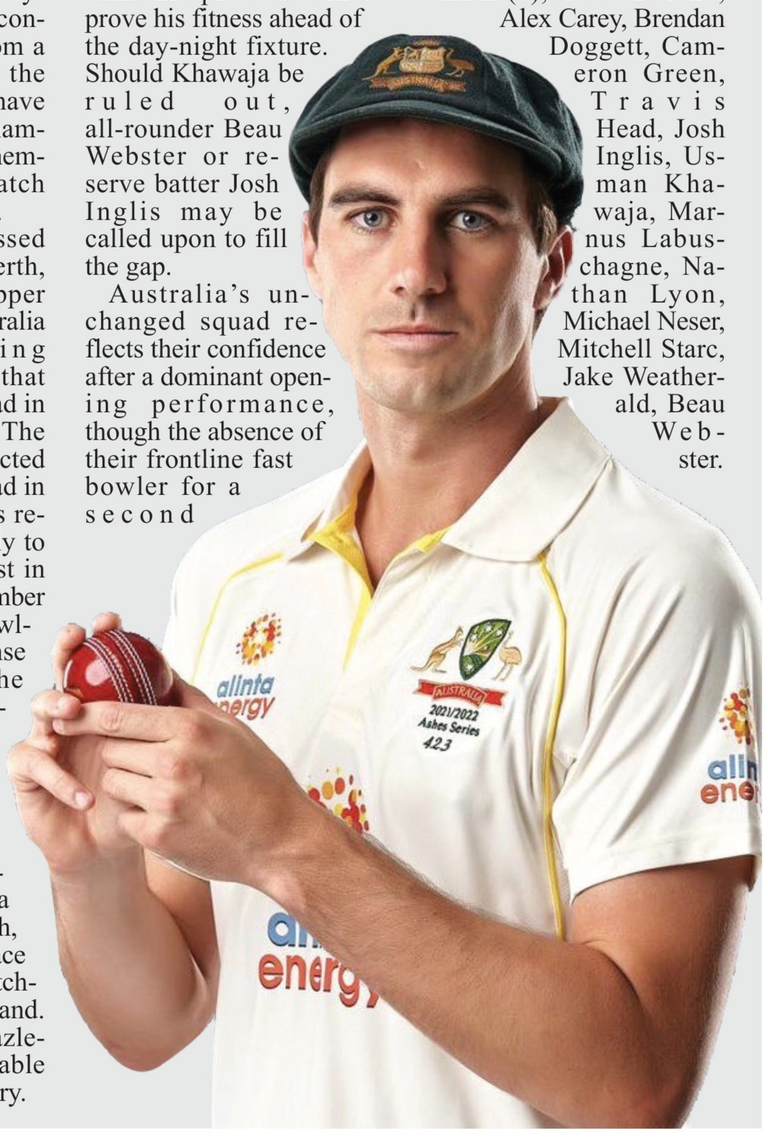
Cummins, who missed the opening Test in Perth, watched stand-in skipper Steve Smith guide Australia to a commanding eight-wicket victory that gave the hosts a 1-0 lead in the five-match series. The pace spearhead is expected to remain with the squad in Brisbane to resume his rehabilitation and is likely to return for the third Test in Adelaide starting December 17. He was spotted bowling to Smith in an intense training session at the SCG on Friday, indicating encouraging progress.

His absence, however, leaves Australia light in experience. Brendan Doggett, impressive with a five-wicket haul in Perth, is poised to share the pace workload alongside Mitchell Starc and Scott Boland. Veteran quick Josh Hazlewood remains unavailable due to a hamstring injury.

The squad also includes opener Usman Khawaja, who suffered back spasms during the first Test. He retains his place but must prove his fitness ahead of the day-night fixture. Should Khawaja be ruled out, all-rounder Beau Webster or reserve batter Josh Inglis may be called upon to fill the gap.

Australia's unchanged squad reflects their confidence after a dominant opening performance, though the absence of their frontline fast bowler for a second straight Test presents a stern challenge as the Ashes battle intensifies.

Australia squad: Steve Smith (c), Scott Boland, Alex Carey, Brendan Doggett, Cameron Green, Travis Head, Josh Inglis, Usman Khawaja, Marnus Labuschagne, Nathan Lyon, Michael Neser, Mitchell Starc, Jake Weatherald, Beau Webster.



SL edge Pak by six runs as Chameera's brilliance seals must-win clash

Chameera's four-wicket burst propels Sri Lanka into tri-series final

RAWALPINDI

Sri Lanka booked their place in the final of the T20 tri-series with a gripping six-run win over Pakistan, powered by a devastating four-wicket spell from Dushmantha Chameera and a composed batting display led by Kamil Mishra. The victory ensured Sri Lanka progressed ahead of Zimbabwe to meet Pakistan again in Saturday's title clash.

Asked to bat first, Sri Lanka posted a competitive 184-5, anchored by Mishra's fluent 76 off 48 deliveries. The opener dominated the early exchanges, sweeping confidently and maintaining a brisk scoring rate. His 58-run powerplay stand with Kusal Mendis (40) set the tone before Mendis fell lbw to Abrar Ahmed. Mishra continued to attack but eventually holed out in the 17th over. A late surge from Janith Liyanage (24 not out) and captain Dasun Shanaka (17 not out) added 24 runs in the final two overs, providing crucial momentum.

Pakistan, already assured of a place in the final, faltered early in their chase as Chameera ripped through the top order with figures of 3-3 in the powerplay. He removed Sahibzada Farhan with a clever slower ball and trapped Babar Azam for a duck, putting the hosts under immediate pressure at 4-43. Despite brief resistance from Saim Ayub (27) and a promising 56-run stand between captain Salman Ali Agha (63 not out) and Usman Khan (33), Sri Lanka's bowlers maintained discipline.

Agha and Mohammad Nawaz (27) launched a fierce counterattack in the death overs, adding 70 off 36 balls to revive Pakistan's hopes. But Eshan Malinga's vital breakthrough in the penultimate over, combined with Chameera's calm final over conceding just three runs when 10 were needed, sealed the match for Sri Lanka.

Shanaka praised his team's resilience, calling Chameera's performance "world-class," while Agha admitted Pakistan paid heavily for early wickets and loose bowling in the powerplay.

'Davis Cup Has Become a Joke': Sinner Slammed After Withdrawal

LONDON

Italy may have lifted their fourth Davis Cup title — and third in a row — but the celebrations were tempered by an ongoing debate over the tournament's dwindling prestige after Jannik Sinner's high-profile withdrawal. He opted out of the finals to focus on preparations for the 2026 season, a decision that drew sharp criticism from former players and reignited concerns around the future of the historic team event.

Despite missing both Sinner and Lorenzo Musetti, Italy defeated Spain with Matteo Berrettini and Flavio Cobolli stepping up impressively, winning their singles matches to secure the trophy. But the absence of top names dominated post-match discussion.

Former British player John Lloyd delivered a scathing assessment, "That would never have happened in my time," he said. "My reaction was sadness… the Davis Cup has become a bit of a joke.

Arteta Hails 'Immense' Arsenal after Win over Bayern, Keeping Kane Quiet

LONDON

Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta hailed his side's "immense" performance after a commanding 3-1 victory over Bayern Munich at the Emirates Stadium, a result that preserved the club's perfect Champions League record and underlined their status as Europe's form team. With five wins from five group-stage matches and top spot in the Premier League, the Gunners are enjoying one of their most dominant starts in recent memory.

Arsenal struck early through Jurrien Timber, whose well-timed header capped a strong first-half display. Bayern responded with a sweeping move finished by 17-year-old prodigy Lennart Karl — the first goal Arsenal have conceded in the competition this season. But Arteta's substitutes made the difference after the break, with Noni Madueke and Gabriel Martinelli scoring decisive goals that handed Bayern their first defeat in 19 matches across all competitions. "They had an incredible match against, in my opinion, the best team in Europe," Arteta said. "Individually we were immense to resolve all the challenges this team brings."

Just days after a resounding 4-1 win over rivals Tottenham, Arsenal again showcased their sharpness, intensity and depth. The victory arrives ahead of another high-stakes fixture: a weekend trip to second-placed Chelsea, who trail the Gunners by six points in the Premier League title race.

Arteta praised the atmosphere at the Emirates and the consistency his side has shown across competitions. "The energy we created, the quality we played with — it's incredible," he said. "We have to maintain that because it's still very early, and every three days you have to do it."

Manasi Joshi Targets World Championship Gold as Hectic 2026 Season Looms

NEW DELHI

Former world champion Manasi Joshi is gearing up for one of the busiest seasons of her career, with her focus firmly set on reclaiming the World Championship gold she last won in 2019. The 36-year-old para badminton star will compete in singles, doubles and mixed doubles at the 2026 World Championships in February, followed by the Asian Games in October — a demanding calendar she describes as "extremely hectic."

Joshi, who has collected seven World Championship medals so far, including bronze in the last two editions in the SL3 women's singles category, said receiving her selection letter for all three events was a moment of "real pride." She has been in strong form in recent months, securing multiple medals across Japan, Australia and Indonesia as part of her comeback campaign after a ranking dip post-Paralympics.

"After the Paralympics, my ranking had dropped because I didn't play many tournaments. I had to push hard to upgrade my world ranking and stay in the top three in India," said Joshi, who took up para badminton after losing her leg in a 2011 accident.

The rise of younger players, she believes, has intensified competition. "I'm working hard… I wish to win the gold this time at the World Championship," she said.

Joshi also reflected on the physical demands of competing across formats. "Playing three events is definitely challenging. It drains your energy, but recovery is the key," she noted.

Her journey this year included a difficult post-Paralympics phase, a much-needed break from competition, and a surgery in June to remove uterine fibroids. The recovery was particularly demanding as a prosthetic user, but Joshi credits her Hyderabad-based support team at the Gopichand Academy for helping her return to top-level training.

"I really wanted to qualify for the World Championships," she said. "The day I returned home after the Asian Championships, I told my doctor the next morning — I'm ready for the surgery."

WORLD CHAMPION INDIA RETURN TO ACTION WITH HOME T20IS AGAINST SRI LANKA THIS MONTH

India to host Sri Lanka for five-match women's T20I series in Dec

NEW DELHI

India will host Sri Lanka in a five-match women's T20I series from December 21 to 30 in Visakhapatnam and Thiruvananthapuram, the BCCI announced on Friday. The fixtures mark the first international assignment for the newly crowned ODI World Cup champions since their historic triumph earlier this year.

The announcement comes shortly after India's scheduled home series against Bangladesh was postponed due to political tensions between the two neighbouring countries. Sri Lanka, stepping in as replacements, will be touring India for a bilateral women's T20I series for the first time since 2016, when the hosts secured a commanding 3-0 win.

The BCCI, in its statement, confirmed that the first two matches will be played in Visakhapatnam before the action shifts to Thiruvananthapuram for the final three games. India's last T20I outing came in July, when they clinched a breakthrough 3-2 series victory in England — their first-ever T20I series win on English soil. The upcoming series offers India an opportunity to fine-tune combinations ahead of a busy 2026 calendar, while Sri Lanka will aim to test themselves against one of the world's strongest units. With India emerging as global frontrunners following their World Cup success, fan interest is expected to be high across both venues.

VENUES:
Visakhapatnam
(1st & 2nd T20I)
Thiruvananthapuram
(3rd, 4th & 5th T20I)

INDIA vs SRI LANKA — WOMEN'S T20I SERIES 2025
SERIES DATES:
December 21–30, 2025

INDIA'S LAST T20I SERIES:
3-2 win vs England (away), July 2025
SRI LANKA'S LAST TOUR OF INDIA (T20Is):
2016 — India won 3-0

FULL SCHEDULE
- 1st T20I: Dec 21 – Visakhapatnam
- 2nd T20I: Dec 23 – Visakhapatnam
- 3rd T20I: Dec 26 – Thiruvananthapuram
- 4th T20I: Dec 28 – Thiruvananthapuram
- 5th T20I: Dec 30 – Thiruvananthapuram

Verstappen Backs McLaren's Decision to Let Drivers Duel

DOHA

Red Bull's Max Verstappen believes McLaren have made the right call by allowing Lando Norris and Oscar Piastri to race each other freely for the Formula One world title, insisting that any attempt to impose team orders would unfairly undermine Piastri. Speaking ahead of the Qatar Grand Prix, Verstappen said Piastri "would be labelled a number two" if he were asked to support Norris in the decisive final stretch of the championship. Norris could clinch the title on Sunday in Doha, but he is closely pursued by teammate Piastri and Verstappen himself — both 24 points behind with 58 still available. With the constructors' championship already sealed, McLaren have maintained their stance of offering equal status to both drivers, a move Verstappen described as "perfect". "You can't do a better job than allowing them to race," said the Dutchman, noting he would never accept being told not to fight for a title. "If you're a real winner and a racer, you go for it — even if you're behind."

Piastri confirmed that McLaren had briefly discussed team orders but rejected the idea. "The answer is no," the Australian said. "I'm still equal on points with Max and I've got a decent shot of winning it if things go my way."

Both Norris and Piastri have taken seven victories this season, maintaining a surprisingly harmonious partnership despite the high stakes.

Portugal edge Austria to capture first-ever U17 world title in expanded FIFA event

Portugal clinches maiden FIFA U-17 WC crown with narrow win

DOHA

Portugal captured their first FIFA Under-17 World Cup title, defeating Austria 1-0 in the final of the expanded 48-team tournament. A composed finish from Benfica's rising star Anísio Cabral in the 32nd minute proved decisive in a tightly contested match dominated by tactical discipline and high-intensity pressing from both sides.

Cabral, who timed his run perfectly to stay onside, met a low cross at the far post and tapped the ball into an empty net after Austria's defence was left scrambling. The goal capped a standout campaign for the 17-year-old forward, who finished the tournament with seven goals — just one behind Austria's Johannes Moser, who claimed the Golden Ball for best player.

The victory marks Portugal's first triumph at the U17 level, achieved in the 20th edition of the youth showpiece. The tournament, traditionally held every two years, has now shifted to an annual format under FIFA's youth development expansion programme. Qatar, which hosted this year's event, will continue as the venue for the next four editions.

Earlier in the day, Italy secured third place with a dramatic win over Brazil. After a tense 0-0 draw, goalkeeper Alessandro Longoni emerged as the hero in the penalty shootout, saving two spot-kicks to seal a 4-2 victory. The result ensured a clean sweep of the podium for European teams, underscoring the continent's depth in youth talent.

Portugal's triumph, built on disciplined defending and clinical finishing, adds another chapter to the nation's rich footballing pedigree and highlights a promising generation poised to shape its future on the global stage.

Liverpool seek revival as Arsenal brace for high-stakes

LONDON

Liverpool's season hangs precariously as the defending Premier League champions travel to West Ham this weekend amid their worst run of form in more than seven decades. Having lost nine of their past 12 matches in all competitions, Arne Slot's side sit 12th in the table, their title defence in ruins just months after lifting their 20th league crown.

A damaging 4-1 Champions League defeat to PSV Eindhoven has deepened the malaise, with Slot admitting sleepless nights as the goals continue to pour in. Liverpool's inability to convert chances, coupled with persistent defensive errors, has resulted in 34 goals conceded — the most by any Premier League team this season. Despite their steep decline, they remain only three points off fourth-placed Aston Villa, offering a faint glimmer of hope.

At the opposite end of the table, leaders Arsenal head into Sunday's showdown against second-placed Chelsea with confidence soaring. Mikel Arteta's side, six points clear at the summit, are also top of their Champions League group after an impressive 3-1 victory over Bayern Munich. With key players still sidelined, Arsenal's depth has shone through — substitutes Noni Madueke and Gabriel Martinelli scored midweek, underscoring the squad's growing maturity. Opta analysts now rate the Gunners as strong favourites to lift their first league title since the Invincibles of 2004.

Meanwhile, Aston Villa continue their remarkable resurgence under Unai Emery. After failing to win any of their first five league games, a run of six victories in seven has propelled them into the top four. Facing struggling Wolves, Villa could rise to second if results align. Their long-range accuracy — eight of 15 goals from outside the box — has become a defining feature. Wolves, winless in 12 matches, face a daunting task at a ground where Villa have been unbeaten since August.

EA FC players to clash in Delhi as championship reaches its climax

Final Eight Set for PlayStation India Cup 2025 Finale at Delhi Comic Con

NEW DELHI

The PlayStation India Cup 2025 is gearing up for a high-stakes finish as India's top EA Sports FC players prepare to battle it out live at Delhi Comic Con next week.

Now in its fourth edition, the tournament—organised in partnership with NODWIN Gaming—has grown into one of the country's premier console esports competitions. After weeks of daily online qualifiers held through October and November, followed by intense double elimination playoffs, the final eight PS5 players have secured their places in the LAN finale. The championship matches will be hosted at the NODWIN Gaming Arena at NSIC Grounds, New Delhi, on December 6 and 7, a major draw for the thousands expected to attend Delhi Comic Con.

This year's finalists include some of India's most accomplished EA FC competitors: Charanjot Singh, Afnan Khan, Karman Tikka, Chaitanya Singh, Amaanuddin Warsi, Saransh Jain, Aditya Chadha, and Jahaan Khan. Each player displayed consistency and resilience through the online stages, earning their chance to compete for the coveted national title. All eight contenders will also receive official PlayStation gear, including the premium DualSense Edge controller.

The LAN finale will retain the double elimination structure used in the online phase, ensuring competitors have an opportunity to stage comebacks even after early setbacks. Across two days of matches, players will contend for the ₹4,00,000 prize pool, with the ultimate winner crowned the PlayStation India Cup 2025 Champion.

Fans attending the event can look forward to live match broadcasts, creator sessions, interactive PlayStation zones, and a vibrant gathering of the EA FC community. The finale promises high-energy competition, fan engagement, and a showcase of India's growing console esports scene.

Santiago Nieva Returns as Indian Women's Boxing Head Coach

NEW DELHI

Argentine-born Swede Santiago Nieva has been appointed head coach of the Indian women's boxing team, returning to the national setup after serving as the high-performance director of Indian boxing from 2017 to 2022. Nieva previously worked extensively with India's men's squad, overseeing landmark achievements, including India's largest-ever Olympic representation at Tokyo 2020 and two historic medals at the 2019 Men's World Championships.

"Super excited to come back to India. I had five wonderful years here in my previous stint. I am very much looking forward to this next chapter, and hopefully, we can create something big together," Nieva said on his return.

With over two decades of elite international coaching experience, Nieva has held influential high-performance roles across global boxing. Most recently, he served as National Head Coach and Technical Lead of Boxing Australia's High Performance Unit, further strengthening his expertise.

Under-19 Asia Cup: Ayush Mhatre to lead India

NEW DELHI

ROAD TO FINAL:
- Dec 12: vs Qualifier
- Dec 14: vs Pakistan
- Dec 16: vs Qualifier
- Dec 19: Semifinals
- Dec 21: Final

Promising young batter Ayush Mhatre will continue to lead India at the upcoming Under-19 Asia Cup, scheduled in Dubai from December 12 to 21. The 50-overs continental tournament will once again spotlight 14-year-old batting prodigy Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, whose explosive rise in youth cricket has generated widespread attention.

Mhatre, who captained the side during a successful multi-format tour of Australia earlier this year, will be supported by vice-captain Vihaan Malhotra. The tournament will also serve as a key preparatory platform ahead of the U19 World Cup in Zimbabwe and Namibia in early 2026.

Sooryavanshi enters the event in stunning form. The teenager recently blasted a 32-ball hundred — joint third-fastest in men's T20 history — on his way to a 42-ball 144 against the UAE in the Rising Stars Asia Cup, reaffirming his status as the most exciting young batter in the country.

The BCCI confirmed that all-rounder Kishan Kumar Singh has been included in the squad subject to proving his fitness. India will begin their campaign against a qualifier on December 12, followed by a highly anticipated clash against Pakistan on December 14. They will face another qualifier on December 16. The semifinals are slated for December 19, with the final set for December 21.

With a blend of solid leadership, proven performers, and emerging stars, India will aim to continue their dominance in age-group cricket and build momentum ahead of next year's World Cup.

INDIA U19 SQUAD

Ayush Mhatre (c), Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, Vihaan Malhotra (vc), Vedant Trivedi, Abhigyan Kundu (wk), Harvansh Singh (wk), Yuvraj Gohil, Kanishk Chouhan, Khilan A. Patel, Naman Pushpak, D. Deepesh, Henil Patel, Kishan Kumar Singh*, Udhav Mohan, Aaron George.

Standbys: Rahul Kumar, Hemchudeshan J, B.K. Kishore, Aditya Rawat.

Tournament: Under-19 Asia Cup 2025 (Dubai, Dec 12–21)
Captain: Ayush Mhatre
Player to Watch: Vaibhav Sooryavanshi (32-ball T20 hundred)
Key Match: India vs Pakistan — Dec 14

Vora Wins Silver at Asian Continental Equestrian Championships

NEW DELHI

Ace Indian equestrian Shruti Vora clinched an individual silver medal at the Asian Continental Equestrian Championships in Pattaya, extending her impressive run at the continental competition.

Riding Magnanimous, Vora delivered a composed and technically polished performance to score 70.147, securing second place in the Intermediate I – Dressage Individual event. She finished behind China's Sarah Rao, who topped the field with 73.794, while Thailand's Pakjira Thongpakdi claimed bronze with 69.118. Vora's routine showcased balance, rhythm, and seamless transitions—qualities she had already demonstrated earlier in the week when she helped India capture a team silver in the Dressage Prix St. Georges (PSG) event on the opening day of the championships on November 25. In that event, the Indian team of Vora, Divyakriti Singh, and Gaurav Pundir posted a combined total of 204.059, earning them a strong second-place finish.

FIFA Accused of Bending Rules to Favor Cristiano Ronaldo

NEW DELHI

Controversy erupts after Ronaldo cleared to play despite violent conduct suspension

FIFA has faced criticism after altering its disciplinary rules to allow Cristiano Ronaldo to participate in all of Portugal's World Cup matches next year. The decision follows Ronaldo's attendance at a White House dinner, where he met US President Donald Trump, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, and FIFA President Gianni Infantino.

Ronaldo had elbowed Dara O'Shea during Portugal's 2-0 loss to the Republic of Ireland in the World Cup qualifiers last month. According to FIFA's disciplinary code for violent conduct, he was liable for a three-match ban. He served one match against Armenia, but the remaining two-match suspension was suspended under a one-year probation period, allowing him to play in Portugal's opening World Cup fixtures.

FIFA justified the decision by citing Ronaldo's clean record in his previous 225 international appearances, stating that the two-match ban would only be enforced if he committed another similar infraction during the probationary period. The governing body referenced Article 27 of the FIFA Disciplinary Code, which grants FIFA discretion to reduce or cancel bans. Critics argue that the decision sets a dangerous precedent, suggesting that elite players can receive preferential treatment. Former players and analysts on social media expressed disappointment, calling the ruling "a bending of rules" and questioning FIFA's impartiality.

A FIFA statement clarified: "If Cristiano Ronaldo commits another infringement of a similar nature and gravity during the probationary period, the suspension shall be immediately enforced. This is without prejudice to any additional sanctions for the new infringement." The original three-match suspension remains subject to appeal by Ronaldo to the FIFA Appeal Committee.

Portugal coach and fans welcomed the ruling, emphasizing Ronaldo's importance in the team, but the controversy has intensified debate over fairness and consistency in FIFA's disciplinary actions.

Lionel Messi Adds Hyderabad to 'GOAT' India Tour

NEW DELHI

Football superstar Lionel Messi will bring his much-anticipated 'GOAT Tour' to India next month, with Hyderabad now confirmed as the fourth stop on his itinerary. Originally set to visit Kolkata, Mumbai, and Delhi, the Argentine World Cup winner announced the addition via Instagram: "Thanks for all the love from India! The GOAT tour kicks off in a few weeks' time! I'm happy to share that Hyderabad has been added to my visits to Kolkata, Mumbai and Delhi. See you soon India!"

Messi's Hyderabad appearance is scheduled for December 13 at 7 PM at the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium, immediately after his morning session in Kolkata.

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